

THE PLANCHET

EDMONTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

September 2013

Volume 60 Issue 4

1934 Potsdam Garrison Church



Coin Photography
Not an Ancient Art





2012 - 1st Place
ANA Outstanding Local
Club Publication Award



2011 - 2nd Place
ANA Outstanding Local
Club Publication Award



2010 - 1st Place
RCNA Best Local
Newsletter



THE PLANCHET

September 2013

Volume 60 Issue 4

Other Stuff

3 **Message From
The President**

3 **Next Meeting**

5 **About Your
Society**

47 **ENS Clasified**

47 **Coming Events**

The Planchet Team:

Editor-In-Chief: Roger Grove

Content Editor: Chris Hale

Co-Editors: Pierre Driessen &
Marc Bink

On-Line Distribution: Pierre
Driessen

Printing and Mailing: Howard
Gilbey

ON THE COVER:

<http://en.wikipedia.org>

Potsdam - Garnisonskirche around 1900

Source Album von Potsdam und
Umgegend. Globus Verlag Berlin, 1904

1934 - 2 Reichsmark commemorative
reverse

*Disclaimer: The opinions herein are those of the
individual authors and are not necessarily those of the
Edmonton Numismatic Society.
The editors, at their sole discretion, reserve the right to
accept or refuse any material submitted for publication.*

Feature Articles

6 **A Penny's Worth
Give Me Ten Years ...**

How Hitler remodeled Germany.

by Marc Bink

14 **Ancient/Medieval
A Tetradrachm from
Syracuse**

A leap forward in Syracusan Coins.

by Terence Cheesman

18 **Amid the Ruins
My Secret Photo Technique
for Ancient Coins**

Author reveals his hard-won technique for
ancient coin photography

by Wayne Hansen

26 **Canadian Tire "Money" as a
Numismatic Collectable**

A rich history belonging to a Canadian iconic
company leads to interesting collectables

by Ermin Chow

32 **Amid the Ruins
ANDREAS HOFER - Patriot,
sucker or sacrificial lamb?**

A patriotic hero remembered numismatically.

by Pierre Driessen



Message from the President

David Peter 2010-14



Our pizza night had an excellent turnout again, and I would to thank everyone for coming out. The summer months often see us more heavily involved in travel and busy schedules, and it's great to see old friends come together for an evening of educational talks and socializing. Ermin Chow had a chance to give us an update on his visit to the RCNA this year in Winnipeg. It sounds like a few people had a chance to make to this year's RCNA, which included a tour of the Royal Canadian Mint.

I have to give credit to the Royal Canadian Mint, as it just unveiled its latest series of coins, commemorating the 75th anniversary of Superman. It is unfortunate that they did not release these coins into general circulation, instead keeping them non-circulating legal tender. It is a great attempt at blurring the lines of comic book and numismatic collectors, as well as both young and young at heart fans.

And, of course, mints around the world have quickly starting issuing commemorative coins in celebration of the birth of Prince George, the third in line for the throne. Wouldn't it be exciting if the Bank of Canada also joined in this historical event and issued another series of royal family banknotes, like they did in 1935. Although unlikely, it would seem appropriate, considering the magnitude of the popularity of the royal family right now.

See everyone at the next meeting.

David

@ The Next Meeting Wednesday, October 9, 2013



Royal Alberta Museum, 12845 - 102 Avenue
Meeting Start Time 7:15pm

- Society matters
- ENS November 9 & 10, 2013 Show and Sale finalization
- Show volunteer finalization
- Show and tell
- Silent auction
- Door prizes draws

Presentation: by Jim Kindrake - "The Coins of Nepal"

For more information regarding these events, or to add an item to the agenda
please send an email to editor_ens@yahoo.ca
P.O. Box 78057, RPO Callingwood, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T5T 6A1

NORTHGATE STAMP & COIN

12516 118 AVENUE

EDMONTON, ALBERTA. T5L2K6 WWW.NORTHGATESTAMPANDCOIN.COM

Edmonton's Fastest Growing Coin Shop

- Gold
- Silver
- USA Coins
- World Coins
- Canadian Coins
- Colonial Tokens
- Provincial Coins
- World Paper Money
- Canadian Paper Money
- Trade Dollars/Medallions
- Royal Canadian Mint Coins
- Collector Supplies
- Wholesale/Retail
- & MORE!



ROYAL CANADIAN MINT
MONNAIE ROYALE CANADIENNE
OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTOR

Hours of Operation

Monday.....10:00 - 6:00
Tuesday.....10:00 - 6:00
Wednesday.....10:00 - 6:00
Thursday.....10:00 - 6:00
Friday.....10:00 - 6:00
Saturday.....10:00 - 5:00
Sunday.....CLOSED
Holidays..... CLOSED

SPECIAL OFFER TO ENS MEMBERS

10 % OFF

2010/2011 Royal Canadian Mint Coins*



Valid ENS membership card required

Contact:
Matthew Stzym

780-424-8511

* Some conditions apply. Offer does not include select special issue products, bullion, or face value coins. Offer only valid with presentation of a valid ENS membership card. We withhold the right to revoke the offer at any time.

About Your Society

Minutes from ENS Monthly Meeting on June 12, 2013

1) David Peter, the ENS President, opened the meeting at 1915 hrs. He stated that he was glad to see everyone considering that it was game one of the Stanley Cup Finals in a series that featured an original 6 match-up between the Chicago Blackhawks and the Boston Bruins. David gave us a brief update on our 60th Anniversary trade dollar. He has been working with the Great Canadian Mint on it and will have more info at our September meeting.

2) The upcoming RCNA election was discussed. There are two positions that are being contested that affect the club, because we have a vote as a RCNA member. The first is that of the Western Director between Ermin Chow and James Williston who both happen to be ENS members. Only Ermin was in attendance at our meeting, and he was given the chance to explain what he would bring to the table as a Director. The other position is that of 2nd Vice President with Bob Forbes and Steve Woodland vying for election. The matter of how the club should cast its 2 ballots were examined and decided after a vote (without Ermin's presence during the Western Director one).

3) Mirko Dumanovic, M.SC. P.Eng gave a very informative presentation on the Coins of Montenegro.

4) A reminder was given about our annual BBQ to be held at David's home on July 14th at 1530 hrs. There will be a brief ENS Executive meeting before this at 1500 hrs. Members are reminded to bring their own chairs, drinks and a desert to share.

5) Door prizes were drawn

6) Show & Tell

Ray passed around several items;

- 1962 25 cent error coin that was struck through wool or hair on both sides
- A beautiful gold Octodrachm of Arsinoe II who was a Ptolemaic Greek princess of ancient Egypt ca. 270 B.C. in a NGC slab with a grade of AU.
- A couple of pieces of Mayan jewellery from Central America.

- 5 pieces of Mayan pottery.

Other items sent around the room were;

- George VI Coronation Medal
- Isle de France & Isle de Bourbon coinage from early in the 19th century. These were pirate islands near Madagascar.
- 1781 Louis XVI copper 3 Sous.
- 1804 Napoleon medal marking the re-establishment of the medal mint in Paris.
- Barbarian contemporary imitations of Constantine the Great & Tetricus coins.
- German Reichsmark notes

Seymour spoke about the famous Walton 1913 United States Liberty Head nickel.

7) It was announced that Ermin would be the ENS' Club Delegate at the July 2013 RCNA convention in Winnipeg.

Conclusion

The Silent Auction was closed and the meeting was adjourned.



ENS Board

2013-14 Executive

David Peter - President

Marc Bink - Vice President

Pierre Driessen - Treasurer

Mitch Goudreau - Secretary-

Roger Grove - Editor-In-Chief

Jamie Horkulak-Past President

Directors

Chris Hale

Greg Wichman

Jeremy Martin

Andy Vanderleest

Howard Gilbey

John Callaghan

Marv Berger

Wayne Hansen

Mirko Dumanovic

Terry Cheesman

Ermin Chow

Webmaster: Markus Molenda

Librarian: Mitch Goudreau

Show Chair: David Peter

Social Activities:

Pierre Driessen

Facebook: Ermin Chow

Twitter: Roger Grove

PRIVACY POLICY

The Edmonton Numismatic Society (ENS) does not engage in the sale nor distribution of personal information to third parties for commercial purposes. All information collected is strictly for ENS internal use and purposes, to permit the ENS Executive and its agents to communicate with you about ENS related matters and to provide you with the full benefits of ENS membership.

THE PLANCHET COPYRIGHT NOTICE

© Copyright 2013. All information herein, the design, style and format are the property of the Edmonton Numismatic Society (ENS). All rights reserved. No part hereof may be reproduced in any form or medium, electronic or otherwise, without the express written consent of the ENS Executive Committee. Current members of the ENS are entitled to make one (1) printed copy of this issue and to store one (1) copy in electronic format as part of their membership privileges, further distribution is strictly prohibited.



Give Me Ten years ...

By Marc Bink



The other day, I was cleaning off my desk at the house (a rare occurrence), when I stumbled across a buried stack of coins (a common occurrence). I found a stash of 2 and 5 Reichsmark coins that were dated 1934 to 1937 along with about a Volkswagen's worth of Reichsmark notes. As is usual for coins like this, they were in reasonable shape; used but not worn out, but also black and green with tarnish from lack of use. The first thought that crossed my mind was what were these things doing there? But, as is the usual result in this process, I couldn't remember whether they were replacements or for eventual re-sale, and I didn't have time to go into the book and check. So they wound up in yet another stack on a different part of the desk, awaiting reburial and rediscovery a few months as the cycle repeats itself yet again. Ah yes, the life of a disorganized coin collector...

But they had caught my eye, because most of them were all of the same type. They had the Garrison Church at Potsdam on them. As such, they aren't considered the "hot" ones, because while they do have a swastika on them, it isn't in its "proper" place under the Reichs-eagle. These coins still have the Weimar eagle on them surrounded by swastikas. The 2 Reichsmark coins have the date of "21 März" on the left of the church and then "1933" surrounded by swastikas

on the right. The 5 Reichsmark coins have just the church and no date. Of course, they all have the almost unintelligible mintmark underneath the church, and in this sample of coins, each mint except for one was represented. So maybe that was the reason why they were there on the desk after all. Nah, that didn't make sense; I had learned how to read Gothic lettering years ago, so that wasn't it. Maybe it was that I had planned to see about getting them plated with a



1934 - 2 Reichsmark with Potsdam Garrison Church Reverse



1934 - 5 Reichsmark with Potsdam Garrison Church Reverse; one reverse with date and one with out date.

thin gold wash and selling them online through a flashy, over-sensationalized ad as "Hitler's Gold" and thereby making enough for a comfortable retirement like the other 10,000 guys are doing. Either way, I decided to make some constructive use out of them and research them; not to mention see if the church still existed.

The Third Reich was all about pageantry and showmanship. The National Socialist philosophy was a lot of bluster, noise and hatred that lacked any real substance. Hitler realized this very early on in his career as a demagogue. He had been handed what others would have considered a career-ending defeat, when the revolt he started fizzled in a hail of gunfire outside of the Feldherrnhalle in Munich on November 9th 1923. He had had no support from the masses. Most people had no idea what these Nazis were all about or who their funny-looking leader with a coarse voice and a bad accent was. As he languished in prison for the few months that he was eventually sentenced to, it dawned on him that he now had a fractured party with no history and virtually no real PR or brand identification. He decided to change that. This putsch had given him a new few ideas on how to change things. He now had the makings of a solemn ritual which, upon his release, he wasted no time in organizing and instituting. He was able to give new recruits a sense of purpose by getting them to swear allegiance to him on a ratty old flag that the army had previously used as a mop. No one was going to be laughing at him anymore.

The whole "putsch" was essentially started because Hitler couldn't clear a bar-tab. It was during the height of the inflation, when the value of paper Marks plummeted to well past worthlessness and were a general nuisance. Hitler and his cronies saw this inflation as just one more reason why the federal government ought to be done away

with, and on the evening of the 8th, they were hungering for a fight. The real reason why the Nazis went to this particular beerhall was that the leaders of the Bavarian government drank there and also happened to be in attendance on that evening. Apparently, the bar-keep had handed Hitler a bill of some astronomical sum which he couldn't pay. Hitler then decided that the timing was now right, and this was the excuse he needed. First, he sent his henchman Putzi Hanfstaengl¹ out to get some more cash, and then, brandishing a pistol, he proceeded to fire a shot into the ceiling while proclaiming that a revolution was starting. Needless to say, the place got quiet in hurry; the deafening silence only broken up by a crash, a shrill scream and cursing coming from a room upstairs. The shocked Bavarian officials were then herded into a side room and "arrested". They were all soon released on a "promise" to cooperate with the new Nazi-led government. It was assumed that they would "honour" this deal. The events of that whole night and the next day were farcical, the unfortunate result being that people got themselves killed for no real reason.

¹ Ernst F. Sedgewick "Putzi" Hanfstaengl, 1887-1975. Hanfstaengl was part of Hitler's intimate entourage during the early years of the party. He was a gifted pianist who used to play Wagner for Hitler while "Herr Wolf" flirted with his wife. Honestly believing in Hitler and the party until he was more or less driven into exile in 1937, Hanfstaengl was part-American and educated in the US; so Hitler thought he could use him as his press-secretary. Even though he was a social gadfly, this position was far beyond Putzi's meager talents. By the late 30s, it was clear that the movement and its rougher edges had progressed beyond anything Hanfstaengl could stand or work with. After a bizarre plane-trip, during which he was supposed to be tossed out of perfectly good airplane, Hanfstaengl managed to convince the pilot to let him out near a train station, whereupon he immediately fled to Switzerland and then eventually to England. Hanfstaengl worked with American and British intelligence during the war; and wrote an exhaustive and turgid report on Hitler which eventually became the basis of his best-selling book in the 50s. Hanfstaengl died in Munich in 1975, still regaling in the early days when he was Hitler's best friend, unrepentant to the end.



The Reichstag ablaze.

The Reichswehr² was called in at the behest of the "honourable" Bavarian government. It quickly established control, and the survivors were hunted down and arrested. Hitler had fled to nearby Austria and then came back to "face the music" after first threatening to launch a bullet through his head. Hanfstaengl talked him out of it. The woman upstairs was never compensated for the potted plant that Hitler had murdered.

Hitler was nothing if not resourceful in his early years. Managing to turn this defeat into a victory of sorts, he made the resulting trial look like a kangaroo court to a sympathetic press. He then went on to codify his beliefs in a very badly written book. Now, close to 90 years later, the book is still around and still not fully understood. I have yet to meet anyone who can claim to have actually completely read and understood it. But Hitler did lay out most of his big plans in fairly clear language. The message of genocide and hatred was easily understood, because it made up the major part of the book. More obscure passages referred to Nazi philosophy and rituals and just how he would change the German "Volk" back into what he thought it was supposed to be. This was the part that no one really "got" or really paid much attention, until it was far too late.³

Fast-forward to ten years later, in 1933. Hitler has now achieved what he had set out to do in those

² Reichswehr, the name given to the Weimar Republic's Army, successor to the Imperial Army and forerunner of the Wehrmacht of World War II.

³ The only book that was worse was Alfred Rosenberg's *Myth of the 20th Century*, in which he tried to lay out the Nazi plank and justify it by creating a pseudo-philosophy based on Hitler's "teachings". I haven't read it and have been looking for a copy to keep in the washroom for years now.

"dark days" in 1923. He was the Chancellor of the German Reich. Okay, he wasn't really "elected" to do the job; he had been appointed to it. He managed to do this by coercion, tossing a bit of money around, making empty promises, and having a keen political intellect. Knowing exactly what to do, the first thing he did was placate both the President of the republic and the army. He had a lot of public support; new Nazis were coming out of the woodwork and closets everywhere. Hitler promised to restore German greatness and triumph; it was as if a new, unencumbered German eagle had spread its wings and was preparing to soar to great heights.

The Nazis needed to achieve total power in order to further their aims. To do this, all opposition had to be eliminated, and not just nullified either, but totally eliminated. Hitler burned down the Reichstag (German parliament) building and managed to convince the aging and increasingly senile President to grant him emergency powers. He then locked up a few members of the opposition parties into brand-new concentration camps that were being built for just such an occasion. This scared the remaining members of the Reichstag into line. As for the doting old President, he was beyond caring. He probably wasn't sure of what was going on anyway. So Hitler then locked up all the Communists and blamed them for torching the Reichstag. A poor, mentally challenged Dutchman, who was nominally affiliated with the Communist party, was found to take the blame for the actual event and was eventually executed for it. In the meantime, Hitler had to strengthen his hold on the Reichstag, so he devised a neat little PR scheme that would do two things - placate the President and nullify the army, assuring people he was determined to maintain the status quo and work within the framework given to him. This little bit of pageantry also served to placate the monarchists who were clamouring for a return of the old Kaiserreich. Now, he just needed a location, since the Reichstag building was still smoldering.

The place he chose was a PR master-stroke. He went to Potsdam, the old Prussian military city. This was a town steeped in military glory and tradition. At the one end of the Breite Strasse (Broad Street), there was an old baroque garrison church. The location was perfect.

The "Garrisonkirche" (Garrison Church) was built over the top of a square, half-timbered construction, erected about 15 years earlier in 1720. King Frederick Wilhelm I of Prussia commissioned Philipp Gerlach, a famous architect, to build the new church. The King wanted a tall

tower above everything else, as he had been fascinated by the tall spires he had seen in northern Germany and Holland. So of course, being Prussian, his had to be bigger and uglier. He succeeded. The building that was eventually built was a myriad of bad proportions; a tall oversized tower placed in front of a squat, flat square with a high pitched centre-peaked roof. It had nothing in common with its Gothic forbearers, and it really didn't even look baroque. One has to wonder if Gerlach was under the influence when he designed it, or if this was his revenge for some sort of a slight. It did look better from the front profile, but from the side, it looked like the wrong tower was haphazardly slapped onto a mess hall by mistake. But the king was delighted, which was all that mattered in the end, and the Prussians now had their military church. Gerlach must have breathed a sigh of relief. This church soon became the final resting place for Frederick Wilhelm and his son, Frederick the Great. Other great Prussians associated with the Hohenzollern family were also eventually interred there. This just goes to show that there is some truth to the stereotype that Prussians are culturally backward and generally have no taste whatsoever when it comes to architecture.

The church soon became the setting for something a little more ominous but in fine Prussian tradition. In 1817, the Reformed court and garrison congregation, the Lutheran garrison congregation and the Calvinist garrison congregation became the Evangelical Christian Union. This was announced by King Frederick Wilhelm III on the 300th anniversary of the Reformation. In typical Prussian tradition, a new government ministry was created to monitor and set policy of this new, state-subsidized religion. While a considerable number of congregations within Prussia changed to the new religion, quite a few remained separate and outside the sphere of control of the State. This kind of government control suited the Nazis well too, and in the same spirit, they created a Reichs-evangelical church, complete with its own swastika-clad bishop. There's unfortunately something very German and very wrong about that incredible desire to control every facet of a person's life, including instituting ostensibly offensive requirements, giving God a good rousing "Heil Hitler".

However, this was still a couple of years away; this little propaganda exercise at the Garnisonkirche occurred in 1933, and the Nazi church was codified in 1936. Hitler was still trying to consolidate his power and convince the German public that he was "respectable" and that the rule of law would continue - well, sort of. He had to appease the



1840 - Oil on Canvas; Eduard Gaertner; "The Garrison Church Near Potsdam".

monarchists first. They were potentially the largest group that could give him trouble, and like the conservative business owners, they had thrown their lot behind Hitler early on in his struggle for power. As much as Hitler may have inwardly cringed, he had to adopt a certain pomp and ceremony to satisfy these people. He still needed them. There would be room in the concentration camps for them too, once he had consolidated power. But before he could do that, he needed to figure something out that would appeal to them, and there's nothing quite like trooping the colours; it kills more than one bird with one stone. Not to mention, it made for some interesting and rousing film footage as well. One thing Prussian aristocrats like to do is march around in pretty, garish uniforms and pointy hats. There was no shortage of those at Potsdam on that day.

Ex-Prince August Wilhelm⁴, resplendent in a

⁴ Prince August Wilhelm von Hohenzollern, 1887-1949. He was the Kaiser's fourth son and the most politically active. Joining the Nazis fairly early on, he was accorded the low party number of #24, mostly for propaganda purposes. Elected to the Reichstag and joining the Nazi SA, he absolutely adored Hitler and secretly hoped that Hitler would elevate him and his family back into the Kaiser's throne once he assumed power.



Hitler with Prince August Wilhelm von Hohenzollern

wartime Hussar's uniform and also a member of the Nazi party, showed up and was feted by Hitler. There's a famous photo of the two together, Hitler being dressed more like the maitre d' of a fine hotel or one of the Prince's footmen. They seem to be sharing a joke, because the picture is actually a still from a film, and it shows the bemedaled cop to Hitler's left grinning at something that was said. Hitler looks to have said something crass or possibly obscene, if one reads his facial expression correctly. One print of that same photo that I've seen has Hitler with what looks like guano on his sleeve. I'm not sure that would have been allowed to happen, but it would have been nice if it was true. But then again, "photoshop" makes anything possible. Standing behind the Prince and Herr Hitler, resplendent in his over-sized steel "brain-bucket" and looking rather cadaverous as a result, was the ex-head of the Reichswehr, General Hans von Seeckt⁵. He's looking rather pursed; one could assume that he didn't like the joke. He was by

Increasingly sidelined after the Roehm affair in 1934, "Auwi" went on to hold a high ceremonial rank in the SA and was arrested by the Americans and tried after the war. Largely acquitted, he died of a sudden and serious illness in 1949 while awaiting a West German war-crimes trial.

⁵ Hans von Seeckt, 1866-1936, German army staff-officer and architect of the post-World War I army. After a rather lackluster pre-war career, Seeckt was recalled at the beginning of the war and found himself in Turkey. He proved himself there. In Germany at the tail-end of the war working for Hindenburg and Ludendorff, he was a gifted organizer, a brilliant strategist and a dyed-in-the-wool monarchist. He hated the Republic and laid the foundations for what the German army became during the Second World War. His humorless and rigid personality eventually got him drilled out of the Reichswehr in 1926. After this, he hired himself out to the Chinese and was instrumental in reforming the Republican Chinese army. Back in Germany in the early 30s, he retired on a comfortable pension and stayed off the active duty rolls until his death in 1936.

most accounts pretty humourless. Seeckt was largely responsible for what the army became during World War II. By pursuing an elitist policy, maintaining that only the best of the best soldiers made up the officer corps, he insured that the German army had a very efficient and competent command structure in place. These soldiers eventually became Hitler's high command during the war and were largely the reason why the Wehrmacht was so successful. Seeckt drove his people to learn from the mistakes of World War I, fully knowing that one day the German army would have its revenge. As a closeted supporter of the Nazis throughout the Weimar years, Seeckt was probably more than a little disappointed that he no longer was on active duty and

got the credit he thought he deserved.

The day started out a little cool but sunny; perfect for stomping about in heavy woolen uniforms and steel helmets. If there are any collectors of militaria reading this, the Germans were still using the 1916 pattern steel helmet with the "Frankenstein" bolts on the sides. This helmet was very heavy and must have clunked down quite a bit while goose-stepping. Maybe that's why the army went to its doom during the last war without a protest. The men had the sense knocked out of them while marching. First, the honour guard paraded, then the Government lead by Hitler and vice-chancellor von Papen paraded, then the old Prussian nobility and General Staff lead by the very old von Mackensen paraded, and finally, the Brownshirts and the SS paraded. A young American reporter by the name of William Shirer was there to record the event for his American audience. He remarked that the whole thing looked like an old-time pre-war Kaiser parade. In his report he began to worry that German militarism, which had never been properly eradicated after the war, was on the road to make a resounding comeback. He wasn't alone in this sentiment. There were a few others around then who also could see what was coming and even wrote books about it. The problem was no one was listening. Worst of all, Shirer was right.

Inside the church, everyone awaited the President of the Republic, and Hindenburg⁶ didn't disappoint.

⁶ Paul Ludwig Hans Anton von Beneckendorff und von Hindenburg, 1847-1934, Prussian General and German head of state. Hindenburg had a pretty boring and lackluster career after the Franco-Prussian war of 1870 and was retired by the



Hitler meeting with Hindenburg

Nor did he hide his allegiance; he doddered up to the empty royal booth and saluted it. He was, of course, fully dressed in an Imperial Field Marshal's uniform and looked much the same as he did when he and Ludendorff ran the country into the ground in 1918. And now here he was again, lording over the destruction of yet another German state; the republic he so detested yet swore to uphold and protect as President. He did decide to remove his Pickelhaube when he sat down; he was in a church after all.

Hitler stood at the rector's pedestal facing Hindenburg's chair. All the government "ministers" were on his left and behind them the entire congregation of "elected" Reichstag deputies, except for any Communists, Social Democrats, Centrists and Christian Democrats. These were hastily replaced by SA Brownshirts who were there to harangue anyone who was out of order or to vigorously applaud without prompting. Hitler made a short speech, and in it, he said to Hindenburg, "By a unique upheaval...our national honour has been restored, and thanks to your understanding...the union between the symbols of the old greatness and the new strength has been celebrated." Ever the drama-queen, he then set up a perfect "Kodak" moment. He is shown hatless, bowing reverently with his hand clasped onto

time World War I started. Recalled to active duty, he got a couple of brilliant "breaks" in his career that catapulted him to the head of the German wartime government. Along with his subordinate Ludendorff he ran Germany into the ground for the Kaiser. He was responsible for the propagation of the infamous "stab-in-the-back" legend that the Nazis used so successfully. Elected to the largely ceremonial office of President of the Republic in 1924 on the death of Friedrich Ebert, Hindenburg eventually went back into retirement mode, becoming increasingly senile and open to manipulation. This eventually resulted in Hitler's being appointed in 1933 and the death of the Republic. Hindenburg died a year later, and his offices were usurped by Hitler who then became "Fuehrer of the German Reich".

Hindenburg's in a symbolic unification of the old and the new. The German eagle, now weighed down with a swastika, had come down...with a resounding thud.

The Nazis extended their propaganda to the coinage as well. The first real Nazi influenced issue was the 1933 Luther Commemoratives. By this point in time, the Nazis had discovered that the country was effectively broke. They needed to cut down on minting costs, and since the currency wasn't freely convertible on the international market, it wasn't worth much. So they decreed that the new coins which were to replace the old Weimar issues were to be smaller. The 5 Reichsmark⁷ shrunk to about the old Imperial Vereinsthaler size, and the 2 Reichsmark⁸ was debased as well as made smaller. Now they had to sell the public, so they used an old standby guaranteed not to offend anyone, Martin Luther. It also happened to be his 450th birthday in 1933; a convenient enough excuse to put him on a coin. Unlike most Nazi coins, these had a fairly low mintage and are pretty scarce today. There was a shortage of coin silver. Until all of the old coinage was recalled and melted, it seemed that there wasn't going to be enough to satisfy demand. At about the same time, the silver 1 Reichsmark coin was replaced with a nickel one of the same size as the previous issue.

The next issue was the Potsdam Garrisonkirche commemorative. These coins were struck in 1934 and 1935. The 2 Reichsmark reverse featured the front profile of the Garrisonkirche with the date and swastikas on either side of the church tower. There were 2 versions of the 5 Reichsmark coin; one with a date, and one without. These were produced concurrently by all of the mints. The dated issue is less common than the non-dated version, which was made for 2 years. The obverse side with the German eagle and denomination, along with the year and the ubiquitous swastikas, was the same through the issue.

The obverse was designed by Reinhard Kullrich⁹, and the obverse was designed by a gentleman only referred to for posterity as "Bruessow". An

7 5 RM specifications: 29mm diameter, weight: 13.88 gr., chemical composition: .900 silver, .100 copper.

8 2 RM specifications: 25mm diameter, weight: 8 gr., chemical composition: .625 silver .375 copper. The specifications for both issues remained the same throughout the Nazi period.

9 Reinhard Kullrich, 1869-1947, son of another Berlin Mint engraver, Friedrich Wilhelm Kullrich. Reinhard went to work at the Berlin mint after the death of his father. He is partially responsible for a number of Weimar designs - the 50 Pfennig of the early 20's, the 1 Rentenpfennig/Reichspfennig of the 20's and 30's and the infamous 4 Pfennig "Bruning Thaler" of 1932. He died in about 1947.



1933 - 5 Reichsmark, 450th anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther.

internet search didn't turn up anything else, which in one sense, is no surprise, considering that most of the pre-war Berlin Mint records were destroyed at the end of the Second World War or by the Communists when they took over the city. Kullrich, on the other hand, was better known. His career with the mint had started in the 1890s, and this design was probably one of his last, as he was approaching retirement age by 1934. Kullrich was responsible for generating the dies from a designer's matrix, so whether he actually "sunk" the image or not is still a question. Unfortunately, there isn't much information on this man. There's even less on his successor, Franz Krischker, who designed or "sunk" most of the subsequent Nazi small change issues. Both of these men seem to have disappeared prior to the end of the Second World War. Krischker's last design was probably an iron test token for the "Reichskommisariat Ukraine". The reverse of that design ended up on the first post-war issues of the DDR. How that all came to be is an interesting story of its own.

The mintage for this whole series was fairly large. The public had accepted the new sizes, and the Nazis had their propaganda coup. These coins remained in circulation throughout the war and were only "de-monetized" in September of 1945. They remained in circulation in Austria for another couple of years, after they were withdrawn in Germany.

These coins are by no means rare and due to the subject matter, not even that collectible. The only thing that sells them is the swastikas on them. The only Nazi era coins that are even less regarded than this series is the early Hindenburg 5 Reichsmark pieces from 1935-36 without the swastika. There are currently a lot of listings for these coins online. They're usually found in some flashy ad complete with bogus claims of extreme value and rarity. Some have been lightly plated with a gold wash and are fraudulently claimed to be "Hitler's gold" from some obscure horde found in an Austrian lake. In some cases, these coins are accompanied by a completely worthless certificate of authenticity, signed by whoever can hold a pen, probably the janitor on duty that day. The prognosis for the collectability of these coins is fairly poor, as supply still far exceeds demand. There's an old joke that when Hjalmar Schacht was released from Nuremburg Prison in 1948, he was asked by a *Financial Times* reporter just how many Reichsmarks he believed were still in circulation, to which he replied, "Approximately 700 billion Reichsmark". Well, there are at least 690 billion worth on eBay at any given time today.

And what about the Garnisonkirche itself? Is it still there? In a word, no. Potsdam was leveled on April 14th 1945 shortly before the war ended. It was pretty much bombed out of existence first, and then the Russians shelled whatever was left. The church looked like it might survive at first, but then the building next to it caught fire, and that was it for the church. The remaining shell stood until 1968. In 1967, the Communist party chief and "First Secretary of the SED Central Committee" Walter Ulbricht¹⁰ visited Potsdam for the first time. This is a bit of a surprise considering Potsdam is a stone's throw away from Berlin. But Ulbricht decided that the remaining buildings along the Breite Strasse were only bombed out ruins that tended to glorify Germany's "fascist-militarist"

¹⁰ Walter Ulbricht, 1893-1973, first leader of Communist East Germany. He joined the German Communist Party fairly early on after World War I. Ulbricht was another humourless and rigid personality who had no appreciation for history or culture unless it was Communist. A devout follower of Stalin, Ulbricht spent the war in the Soviet Union denouncing colleagues and coercing prisoners of war to join in the Communist movement. Flown into Berlin as the Russians were still securing it, Ulbricht quickly established a Stalinist government and obliterated any opposition. In 1946, he unified all the political parties in the Soviet Zone and became the de-facto head of both the party and the government. He ruled with an iron fist until quietly deposed by his loyal henchman, Erich Honecker, in 1971. His demise in 1973 was greeted with a sigh of relief by everyone in the Soviet Zone. He is to this day largely unknown and unmourned in Germany.



The ruined church in 1945.



The ruins of the church in 1966, prior to demolition.

past. He ordered it all pulled down and some shapeless communist-inspired erection installed in its place. There's no record if he decided this from the comfort of his office, which overlooked goose-stepping soldiers doing a Prussian-style "changing of the guard" in front of the "Neue Wache" in downtown East Berlin.

Right now, there is a movement afoot to rebuild the church. It is expected to have the tower and steeple built in a couple of years and the whole thing to be completed by 2017. Of course, due to its controversial place in history, there is a lot of opposition to rebuilding it, so the whole effort is being financed with private donations and no government or public grants. It remains to be seen if it will actually get finished.

Around the time of the Potsdam Day, Hitler is purported to have made this promise to the German people, "Give me ten years, and you will not recognize Germany". (Gebt mir zehn Jahre, und ihr kennt Deutschland nicht wieder.) He meant that a National Socialist Germany would be an entirely different thing from the republic or the empire that came before it. In many ways, he was right; Germany was pretty much unrecognizable after the war. But it was for entirely different reasons.

The highest buildings in most cities in 1945 turned out to be the fire hydrants. All the architecture was bombed flat. Looking around now, there's hardly any evidence that there was all this destruction. In Potsdam, the old Communist structures are quietly coming down, only to be replaced with perfect copies of what stood there before. It's as if nothing had ever happened. No one is really sure if this is such a good idea, considering the bad blood that went with all of the history there. So now all we're left with is a lot of ugly coins to remind us that the whole Nazi and Second World War thing wasn't just some bad Hollywood movie or nightmare that can be easily forgotten.

It's time to bury that stack again. At some point I'll figure out why it is on my desk - just not today.



Subscribe to The Planchet - 10 issues a year for only \$15. Plus receive a one-year membership in the Edmonton Numismatic Society.



A Tetradrachm from Syracuse

By Terence Cheesman

One of the things I do every so often when I am researching a coin on any research site is to look for coins from my collection that are pictured there. Over the years, I have bought many coins, and sometimes the image simply gets lost. This is because either I forgot to save it, or because my first computers were second hand, and in one case I had to delete pictures so that the machine could keep running. In either case, I did not save a lot of pictures. A few days ago, I was rewarded with some success. While trying to find something about another coin from the mint of Syracuse, I found an image of one of my coins from that mint.



The coins of Syracuse are counted among the most beautiful coins ever minted. This is because the die cutters were allowed to experiment with both the basic design as well as the fabric of the coin. The flans became thinner and therefore larger, so more ambitious and complex designs could be experimented with. True, there could be long intervals in which there was no or very minimal development, but these periods of inertia could be followed by periods of rapid innovation in design, so that in only a few years the coinage was completely transformed. One such period was that of the Second Democracy which started in 460 B.C. and ended in 406 B.C. Much of this period was marked by very slow development of the main types, followed by very rapid development starting in the last twenty years of the coinage. However, the development of this coinage cannot be seen as a linear progression. In a few, cases the initial experimentation was not followed up upon immediately, and it would not be for a few years that the concept was reintroduced.

One point should be made before I continue. The obverse on most coins is the side upon which is engraved a head. This is a very normal procedure, as the head, be it of a deity or a ruler, is usually the most important and most complex image on the coin and thus is placed on the obverse. This is because the obverse die is usually much more securely placed during the minting process. Sometimes called the anvil die, the obverse was often fitted into an anvil, the flan of the coin placed upon it and the reverse, or hammer die, then placed upon that. Because the reverse was the die hit by the hammer, there were far greater stresses placed upon that die during the striking process. This meant that the reverse die usually was damaged far more quickly than the obverse die. Thus, the reverse die was usually engraved with simpler, more easily replaced designs. However, on the tetradrachm issues of Syracuse, the head is placed on the reverse. This is due to the way the coinage was developed. In the beginning, the four horse chariot design or quadriga was placed on the



***Location of the ancient Fountain of Arethusae in Syracuse
(photo courtesy of W. Hansen.)***

obverse. On the reverse a simple square punch made up of four smaller rectangles was employed. Later a small head appeared in the middle of the reverse design, and when this head became larger, the punch design disappeared.

Our coin is one of the earliest attempts to introduce motion to the standard image of the four horse chariot made famous on the tetradrachms of Syracuse. It is generally believed that the image is that of a victorious team perhaps from the Olympic Games. Normally, the horses are seen walking, the race finished. However, the image presented on this coin is one where the horses are seen rearing up, their front legs flailing about in the air. The furthest horse has raised his head up, while the closest horse has his head buried in his chest. The charioteer is pulling back on the reins so that the horses come to a spectacular and exciting stop. We can infer that the race has been completed, as a winged Nike, the personification of victory, can be seen crowning the driver. In itself this marks something of a transition. Normally the tetradrachm issues show Nike in the act of crowning the horses. This is a reference to one of the more unusual aspects of Greek chariot racing. The driver gained little of the glory of winning these races, for the prizes went to the owners of the horses. There is one famous case which involved the Athenian citizen Alcibiades who entered three chariot teams at the Olympics and won first, second and fourth place in the same race. (I would really like to see a modern athlete achieve that.) Why this issue changed the

long standing tradition is unknown. Perhaps in this case the owner actually raced his horses. We cannot know for sure, as this minor to us anomaly may have had greater political significance to the Syracusans. However in Syracuse, during this period of being nominally a democracy, there was great division among the political classes. The change of image may represent the triumph of one political group over the other. Interestingly the image of Nike crowning the driver, though not immediately popular, became the norm thirty years later. Those of you who carefully read these articles and study the pictures are probably asking, "Why is this chariot called a quadriga when only two horses can be seen and not four?" I suspect that chariot racing usually involved four horse chariots, and the die cutters were only able to successfully depict two of the horses. It was only later on that they could successfully depict a four horse chariot.

The reverse of this coin features the head of Arethusa facing right. Around her head are four dolphins swimming anti clockwise. Between the face and the dolphins is the legend ΣΥΡΑΚΣΙΟΝ. Essentially this means "(coin) of the Syracusans." The dolphins surrounding Arethusa represent the fact that the city of Syracuse sits upon the island of Ortygia. Arethusa was a nymph who eventually became a fountain there. As a nymph, she came upon a clear stream and began to bathe, not knowing that it actually was the river god Alpheus. Alpheus apparently liked what he saw, and when she fled gave chase. Arethuse prayed to the

goddess Artemis who hid her in a cloud. However Arethusa was so fearful of being caught by Alpheus that she turned into a stream. Artemis, again trying to protect her, opened the ground, allowing Arethusa to flee from the Peloponesus, which is the southern part of Greece, to the island of Ortygia which is just off the coast of eastern Sicily. That the Syracusans would honour their water supply is perfectly understandable. An easily defendable island with a reliable fresh water supply would make a great place to found a city.

Arethusa is depicted as a young girl wearing what looks to be a pearl necklace. Her hair is tied up in a loose krobylos at the top of her head. A krobylos is a knot of hair held in place by a pin or

some other ornament. On my coin the krobylos is somewhat indistinct. The hair covering the rest of the head is tied in a series of loose braids which explains the leaf shaped objects which seem to cover the hair. I have included two modern images which suggest something about what this style may have looked like. While neither is an exact copy, both images do show something like what the die cutters were trying to convey. As on the reverse this coin shows that the transformation from the stiff archaic form of portrait to that of the classical, more natural portrait has been completed. Artistically the coinage of Syracuse is among the leaders in the Greek world. Within 30 years the Syracusans would strike some of the most beautiful coins ever minted.



AETERNITAS APPRAISAL SERVICES

5727 Sunview Point
Sherwood Park, AB,
T8H 0J9


Phone: 780 570-2665
Cell: 780 271-1362
E-mail: mbink@shaw.ca

We Specialize in:
Coins, Vintage cars, Cameras
Watches, Antiques, Militaria

Marc Bink, CPPA
Appraiser



Marc Bink is a member in good standing of the CPPAG



David Peter Coins

Canadian Personal Property Appraiser

P.O. Box 4511
Edmonton, AB
T6E 4T7
780-995-8199

worldcoin@gmail.com

CAN REALIZE TOP MARKET PRICES FOR YOU.

CAN REALIZE TOP MARKET PRICES FOR YOU.

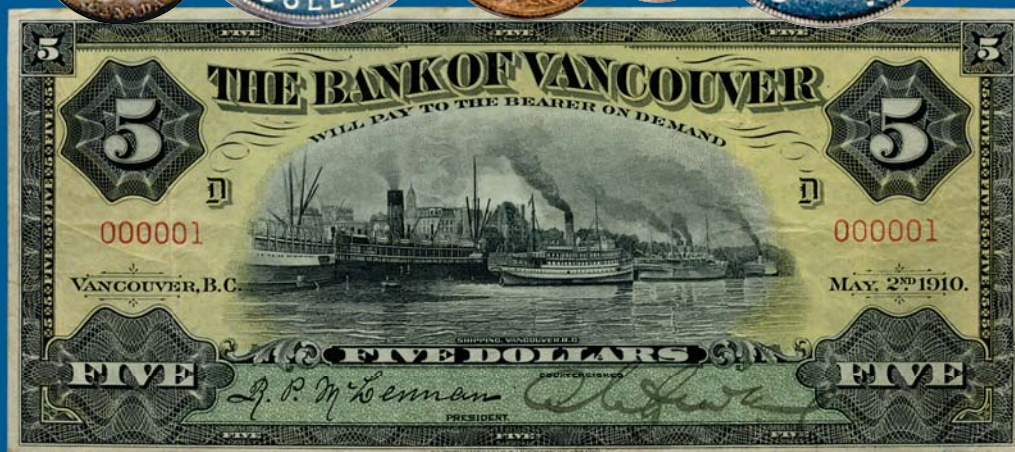
We Invite you consign to our Feb. 21-22 & Oct. 24-25, 2013

Toronto Public Auction Sales

Maximize Your Results Through Our

Expertize, Specialization and Professionalism

Consignment Deadlines: December 15, 2012 and August 5, 2013



MOORE'S

CANADA'S LEADING NUMISMATIC AUCTIONEER

P.O. Box 5233, Walnut Creek, CA, 94596

(925) 946-0150

Fax (925) 930-7710 E-mail: moorecoins1921@yahoo.com



Life Member: R.C.N.A. #143, A.N.A. #1995, C.P.M.A. #11 Past President, C.A.N.D.



My Secret Photo Technique for Ancient Coins

By Wayne Hansen



OK, forget about all the ancient warfare, redneck marriages and really old coin history that I usually write about. It's impossible for me to even count the number of 'Dear Readers' who have pestered me to write about how I do my coin photos – you know, the photos in my articles with the blue background. Then recently another ancients-collector asked me to do some nice images of a few of his coins, so I started to think that the silent majority of club members might be interested in seeing an article on the technical side of ancient coin photography - or at least an article on my unusual approach to the topic. Besides, I knew that coin collectors in general are desperate for amusement wherever they can find it.

Introduction

The whole coin photography topic is really a mixed bag. Some collectors don't bother with photos, some merely want a record for archival or insurance purposes, and some just want to post an on-line quick-pic to get a sale. On the other hand, some collectors want higher-quality photos as a permanent record of their trophy coins. I fall more into the latter, trophy category. When you spend precious time and money to build a small herd of better-quality coins, you likely want to have ready access to good photos of the little hostages. This is especially true in my case, since I keep the coins in a bank vault, and I frequently want to compare my examples with others now on sale. Sometimes, I also need to send coin photos to dealers or other innocent bystanders, and let's not forget that I need photos for my articles.

Wanting to photograph coins correlates with my interest in displaying coins from my collection. It's all part of trying to make the coins accessible both to myself and to others – that is, to share the interest, and sometimes the wonder, of each piece. Mind you, there is a danger that you and your collection might become over-exposed and vulnerable, in which case you will have to go into hiding. (This reminds me of the situation I encountered on-line, where someone in the U.S. was wondering how to avoid the clutches of Italian police who had issued a speeding ticket to him by mail. Another poster had advised him to go into hiding: "Fake your death and live off the grid. It's the only way out. If you need help, I know a guy, who knows a guy, who knows a girl who has a boat

and a chainsaw.") So far, the photography and the displays haven't gotten me into that much trouble.

Many ancient Greek coins have unique and varied sculptural motifs, making photos of them unique and varied (as opposed, perhaps, to photos of other, more standard, functional coin issues from later eras). That being said, the actual work of creating the photos can be difficult, requiring a long process of trial and error in order to find the best technique. Once that technique has been identified, it is necessary to go back and photograph the coins all over again, so they are recorded to the same standard. I agree, it's all hopeless and pathetic. It only makes sense if you are serious about your collection, if you intend to keep the coins for the longer term (i.e., if you plan to live forever), and if you enjoy the results.

'Just the Facts Ma'am'

Right from the beginning, I need to offer a couple of disclaimers: I do not do quick snapshot photos, nor do I have a fixed camera setup. Not only that, until now, I have only used my first, now antique (over 10 year old), digital camera for the photos – the one I bought at great expense in early 2002 (even though I have since owned two newer digital SLRs). My photos are virtually handmade one step at a time, so the process is not suitable for really high volumes. Also, I prefer to use lighting only from the sun, which is somewhat poetic, since these ancient coins were first seen by light from the same sun well over 2,000 years ago...

Another point I would like to make is that I have not taken much in the way of advice or

inspiration from any 'how-to' sources (yes, not even 'You-Tube'). I do have some background in photography and understand some of the technicalities, so I opted to muddle my way through this problem, until I found something that worked (I'm sure that if we had stuck with this approach back in the 1700s, we would be using steam-powered cell-phones today). The main problem with my photo process is that it is slow. However, even if the photo-taking part could be speeded-up by using better equipment, and if the computer processing part could be more automated, the overall principles and steps, as outlined below, would be similar.

The Objective

As mentioned, my intent is to make good quality photos of each coin in the collection. The photos should capture the sculptural highlights of each coin, along with the actual details of obverse/reverse types. They should enhance each coin's image without masking or exaggerating any of the coin's defects. Finally, each joined photo should present both sides of the coin in a seamless, artistic format, with consistent proportions and an attractive background.

Camera Equipment and Set-up

On a scale of 1 to 10, metaphorically speaking, my current camera set-up can be found sitting on the front porch of an Ozark cabin, sucking on a

'possum bone. First, I use an exterior window that is not too wide, with a blind that can be lowered to restrict errant light from above. The window faces mostly south towards the sun. I use a piano bench as the photo table and place an old auction catalogue with a mostly blue cover on the bench to simulate the photo background (the pleasant shade of blue also somehow facilitates the right camera exposure). I do not use a tripod to hold the camera, but I do use a nice, round-edged, wooden watch box from Eddie Bauer as a hand rest. To blur the background and highlight the coin in each photo, I set the coin on a pile of three flat pills that have been taped together around the sides (except tiny coins that might have to be placed right on the background). So the whole operation is largely improvised and somewhat inelegant - reminding me of the old advice that it is best not to enquire about what goes into the sausages... just appreciate the results.

The other part of the equipment is the camera. Until now, I have been using a Nikon Coolpix 4500 digital camera, swivel body type, bought in 2002 (when a kilobyte was the new megabyte, and a gigabyte was some lunatic's wet dream). Flash memory cards were more than a dollar per megabyte at the time. The camera was cutting edge, packing a 4.0 effective megapixel sensor capacity, and it was super expensive. I used this camera for travel photos for a few years but found



Figure 1 - Example of a Well-Configured Coin Photo

This coin photo illustrates the high relief of a typical Greek coin – enhanced by the use of shadow. The coin is well lighted with even tones on both sides, the obverse/reverse images are shown in the same proportion against a pleasant background, and flan or condition defects have not been masked. I prefer to use a varied background, for a -3-D effect, rather than a flat-colour background.

Stater of Aspendos – 370-333 BC; 10.81g, 24.5 x 21.5 mm, 5h; Obv: Two wrestlers; Rev: Slinger and triskeles; Ex: Atlantis Coins, July 2002. (Collection of the author).

it slow to focus and slow to upload each photo to the flash card. So, by the spring of 2005, I progressed to a digital SLR camera for our travels. Of course any digital camera could be used for coin photography, as long as it allows reasonably close, reasonably sharp, macro-type photos (further cropping of the final photos brings you closer).

Even though the Nikon 4500 is slow, and it was very expensive, it makes up for it by having a super sharp macro mode. The 4500 lens is actually tiny, and it is built into the camera body (a separate telephoto lens could screw onto the fixed lens housing), but the lens quality is superb. Moreover, the small lens diameter provides an excellent depth-of-field advantage. Coin photos from the 4500 are sharper, or at least have a much better in-focus range (depth of field), than photos taken with my main SLR and dedicated macro lens. I therefore continue using the 4500 for all my coin photos, knowing that speed is not critical, and small-scale sharpness is essential. I understand that CNG used the same camera for its catalogue photos, until it switched to a Nikon D90 SLR a few years ago.

Taking the Photos

My photo equipment and general set-up is covered above. Here are some further comments about the specific set-up and my picture taking procedure.

1. Lighting

I use only natural light, and for best results, I wait until the middle of a day that has bright, solid cloud cover, so that the light is both white and softly dispersed. It doesn't seem to matter that the camera is automatically colour-corrected – bright white cloud is best. Such light is even better in winter, when there is snow on the ground. A bright day with a clear, blue sky is not as good, since a strange reflected bluish tone seems to creep into the photos that cannot be corrected.

2. Arrange the Equipment

The piano bench is placed directly in front of the low, narrow (6' x 2') window so it is the same level as the glass, with the blue catalogue placed on top of the bench and the little pill support for the coins placed on top of the catalogue. I sit on a swivel stool beside the piano bench, holding the camera, while resting my hands on the top of the moveable watch box. The selected batch of coins is arranged on the other area of the bench and removed from their holders in advance to speed the process. The light must be controlled to encourage shadows on the coin surface, so the translucent blind is lowered to a point slightly above the coin level. This leaves enough light from the side and a bit



Figure 2 - My Studio - Camera and Photo Bench

above the coin to brighten the coin's surface and create the necessary shadows around its main features.

3. Take the Photos

Once the equipment is set up, the process is fairly standard. The coin goes on top of the pill support, and I check that the upper coin surface is not tilted towards or away from the light (usually it is best for the coin to lie flat, but often ancient coins are uneven on the lower side, so a small spacer may have to be placed under one side of the coin or support). The coin then has to be oriented to the window light source in order to enhance its relief and the lettering. If the coin has a figure with a head (such as a horse or griffin), the coin is usually arranged so the light shines from the upper left or upper right, depending on which direction the figure is facing. Light intensity can be varied by moving the coin closer to or farther away from the window, but usually closer is better.

Once the coin is in position, I take several photos of each side, holding the camera with both hands and bracing my hands on the watch box. The camera can be raised or lowered a few inches, according to the size of the coin, just by adjusting hand positions. If even more height is needed for large diameter coins, such as the Egyptian bronzes, a book or two can be put under the support box. To be sure of the finding the right light angle, I will usually also turn the coin slightly for a different view and then do another series of photos.

I take several photos of each side of each coin in each position, while adjusting the exposure by two or more stops. This gives me lots of choice when choosing the best photo. Focus is not often a problem, but the amount of light and the colour of the coin (from bright silver to dark bronze) make the job of optimal exposure selection difficult.



Figure 3 - Close-up of Photo Bench and Nikon 4500 Camera



Figure 4 - Close-up of Coin on Background

I under-expose each photo, using exposure settings between '-0.7' to '-2.0' depending on the coin (darker coins ironically need less exposure). Otherwise, I keep the camera in its close-up mode and set the ISO 'speed' at 400. Different exposure modes may be needed for different camera/lens combinations. It is amazing that only one or two photos out of fifteen or twenty might be worth using. The wear and tear of taking multiple photos ends up being hard on the sensor and the camera mechanism, if not on the optimistic, but delusional, photographer.

Adjusting and Assembling the Photos

1. Download

Download the new photos to a working file on the computer desktop, and group the several photos taken for each side of each coin into adjacent piles.

2. Select

Select the best one or two images for each side of each coin (I tack 'good' or 'best' onto the original photo number for each of the best images), then either delete the remaining photos, or bundle the more promising rejects into a secondary folder for possible future review (some rejects can look better in a future comparison).

3. Import and Adjust

Open a version of image processing software, and import the selected coin photos from the above noted working file. I earlier used 'Photoshop Elements' for this step, but I currently use 'Aperture' – whichever allows you to adjust colour, contrast, brightness, tilt and sharpness. Adjust each photo, being careful to match adjustments for each side of the same coin (the background colour is secondary but even that can be adjusted - in my case, I select the blue palette and manipulate the intensities). You want to enhance the coin's appearance without overpowering its natural colouration. My original photos are intentionally a bit dark to retain colour, so I often need to add brightness and contrast. This is also the time

to remove any extraneous dust, marks or blown camera pixels, but it is not the time to camouflage any of the coin's defects. Once each photo has been adjusted, they can be left as individual images or the obverse and reverse photos of each coin can be joined.

4. Decide on 'Interim' or 'Final' Join of Coin Photos

There are two ways to join the adjusted coin images, leading to what I call the 'Interim Result' and the 'Final Result'. The 'Interim Result' is a quick method where the final images of obverse and reverse are exported back to a desktop file, resized and joined with an instantaneous screen capture. This leaves an obvious dividing line between the coin halves, and variations in background colour on each side of the join. It is the quick and dirty method, though the joined photos are pleasant enough – see Figure 8 for an example and check points 5 and 6 below. The 'Final Result' involves a more intensive process, giving a final join that is more even and presentable. To achieve the 'Final Result', the individually adjusted coin photos are joined while in the image-processing mode – so you can proceed either directly from stage 3 above, or move the images from another file at any other time – see Figure 1 for an example and check point 7 below.

5. Export and Resize for Interim Result

For an 'Interim Result' join, the adjusted photos from point 3 above should first be exported back to a working file on your desktop. Then the obverse and reverse photos of each coin must be resized so the diameters of both sides match closely. This ensures an easy join of the coin images in the next step. As noted, I use a quick and dirty resizing method right on the desktop, although on another computer this may need to be done in step 3 using the image adjustment software (select the 'Image Resize' option). Resizing is necessary, since I hand-hold the camera when I take the photos, and the size of the actual coin image changes slightly from picture to picture.

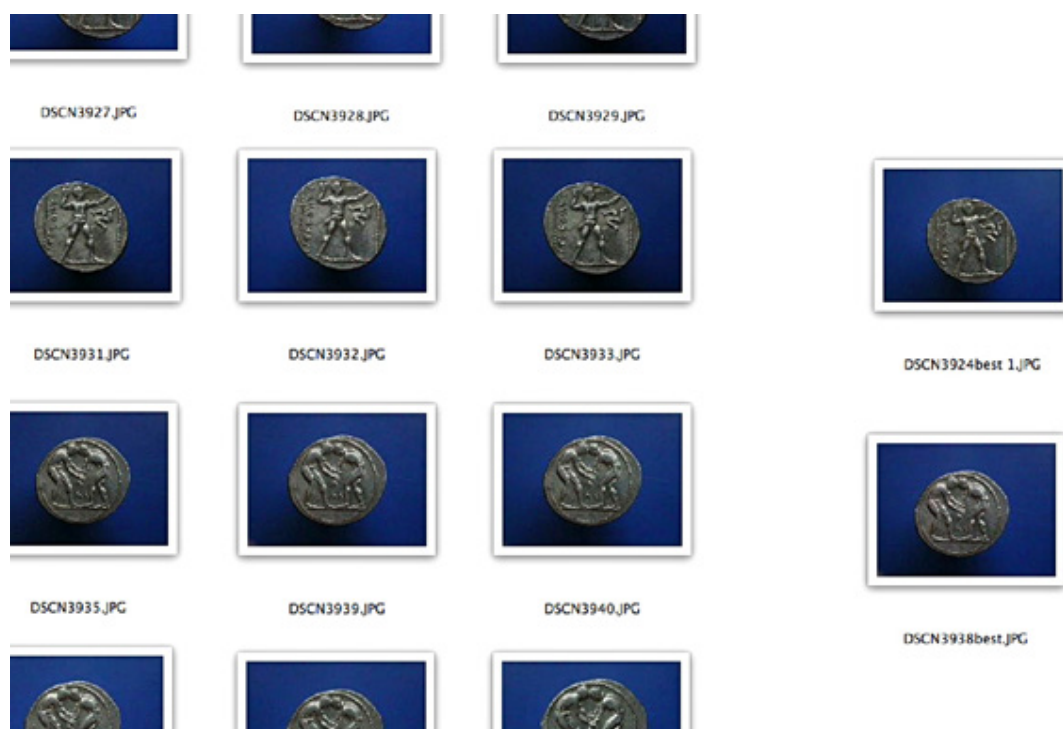


Figure 5 - Computer File Folder Containing Best Photos Selected

All I do to resize a pair of photos is open the best photo of each coin face in the Mac's 'Preview' view on the desktop, which usually fills the large screen (if they are not full-size, ensure the photos are enlarged by the same amount on the screen), and then I measure the diameter of each coin in the photos. 'Preview' lets me increase (+) or decrease (-) the image size in fixed stages merely by clicking a button, without changing the size of the original window. I then click the (-) button once for the larger-diameter coin image, which slightly reduces the size of that image by some standard amount within the original window outline. I then roughly measure the actual diameter of that newly reduced coin image with a ruler against the screen, which will be the new sizing guideline. Then I grab the corner of the unreduced (free-moving) photo and move it inwards until the diameter of the second coin side matches the previously reduced coin image (without using the (+) or (-) buttons, the window and the image within it, increase or decrease in size together). Both coin image diameters are then the same size, even though the dimensions of the two photo windows may be different. It is not necessary to save the images at this point, since you can adjust their size easily again at any time, using the original fixed photos. I just move on to the next step, so that I end up with a new joined image (plus the two originals). It is all easier than it sounds.

6. Quick Attach and Crop for 'Interim Result'
With the photos adjusted for colour etc, and the coin photos resized to be the same diameter on the desktop, all that is required is to join the two coin images and to crop the uneven border. For

the quick method, I use a free, screen snapshot app for Mac that is amazingly versatile. It is called 'SnapNDrag' and allows you to instantly capture anything on your desktop screen, in any size, and in any resolution (up to the same resolution as an original photo). I use it to outline and 'snap' any combination of images or documents (whatever is on the screen), and then 'drag' the resulting capture to the desktop as a new image or document.

When both of the resized coin photos from step 5 above are open, all I have to do is move the left or right window border of the reduced, fixed-size coin photo, so it is close to the appropriate side of the coin's obverse or reverse (the photo itself doesn't move, since it is fixed, and the edge of the window has no border) then grab the window of the same coin and drag it to overlap onto the window of the unfixed coin at the right distance from the opposite image of the coin's obverse or reverse. It then looks like the final joined image, with a nice gap between the two sides of the coin, and a vertical join-shadow right down the middle. Then in a magical split-second, I use 'SnapNDrag' to outline the new border of the overlapped photos in whatever pleasing proportions I want and capture the new joined and cropped image with one click of the mouse (at the photo's original resolution). Once captured, I can then drag the joined photo to the desktop for renaming. This quickly-joined image is what I call the 'Interim Result'. The problem is that the snapshot sees only what was on the two original fixed photos. The background of each of the two images might therefore be slightly different in tone or colour, and a shady



Figure 6 –Photos Being Adjusted With Image Software

Each photo is adjusted separately for overall appearance, but then the obverse/reverse images for each coin should be viewed together and readjusted to ensure the coin colour and brightness will match when the photos are joined. The background colour for each coin image may still vary, but that could also be adjusted if necessary.

line is left where the two original photos met, but the 'Interim Result' is more than acceptable for normal uses (example in Figure 8). If, however, I need a fully joined coin photo with a consistent background (resembling a proper coin portrait), I need to go to the next step, in order to create a 'Final Result'.

7. Clone Images to New Background for 'Final Result'

The process to obtain a properly joined, 'Final Result' coin photo normally starts with the original, adjusted photos from step 3. It may also be possible to re-import the resized and joined, 'Interim Result' coin photos from the desktop (step 6), into the image processor, but I haven't done that way. The intent is to clone only the actual coin images, not their backgrounds, to a new, pre-set background that is clean and consistent. For the cloning process, I switch to my old version of 'Photoshop Elements', since 'Aperture' cloning is too basic. If you go back to the original photos from step 3, the diameters of both imported coin photos must first be made the same. Photos of both sides of each coin are opened in 'Elements' and the coin diameters are measured as for an 'Interim Result'. The photo of the coin with the smaller diameter is resized so the coin diameters on both photos are the same. At this point, the photo for each side of the coin has been adjusted for both colour and size.

The individual obverse/reverse coin images must be cloned onto a pre-set background, so a background template of your choosing must also be imported into the same image-processing folder, to make it available for the image transfer. The template is simply an existing, previously joined, 'Final Result' coin photo that has a generous, seamless background, preferably containing a prepositioned image of an under-sized generic coin. The generic coin photo acts as a guide for the placement of the two new cloned images. The fact that the generic coin images are under-sized makes it easier to cover the template photos during cloning. I tend to use a pre-set background with shadings and shadows, rather than a flat colour, to provide a more interesting depth sensation. Any other consistent background can be used of course.

With both the template and both new coin images open, select the cloning tool from the software menu, and make the clone size reasonably small for better initial positioning. Set the cloning point on the inner leading edge of one of the new coin images, then switch over to the template window, and position the starting clone point near the equivalent obverse or reverse area of the generic template coin. Proceed to cover the template's previous coin image with the new coin's image, staying close to the new coin's edges and increasing clone tool size as necessary to speed

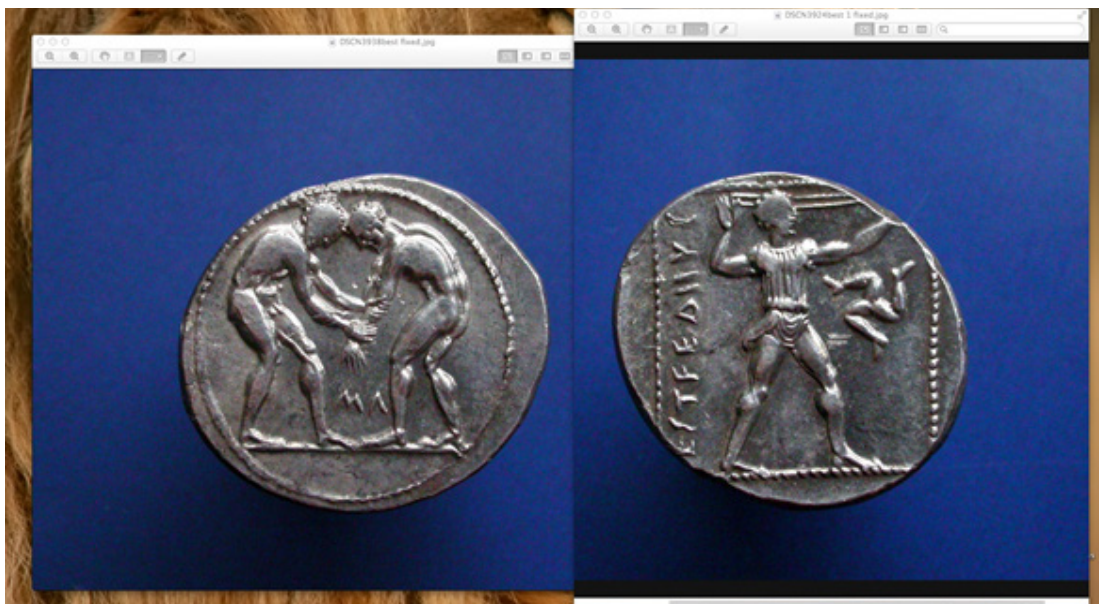


Figure 7 – Overlapped Photos Ready for 'SnapNDrag'

Once the obverse/reverse coin images are the same size, the leading edge of the fixed window for that side of the coin (on the right in the above photo) can be moved toward the leading edge of the coin image in the same window and set at an appropriate distance away. The whole window can then be overlapped with the other window in order to place the coin images side-by-side. When the gap between the two images is satisfactory, 'SnapNDrag' can be used to do an instant crop and join of the images.

up the coverage. After each image is transferred, the template background will then have to be cloned to cover the overages around the perimeter of the newly cloned coin (this will eliminate the gap between the edge of the new coin image and the desired template background). The cloning process is then repeated for the opposite side of the new coin. No resizing or cropping is necessary, although you will likely want to crop some of the outer template background from the newly integrated coin image (especially when dealing with relatively small coins). The cloned coin images will usually be larger than the original, small template coin images, and larger coins will cover more of the template background, as the relative coin size gets larger. If the initial location of the new clone isn't quite right, it can be deleted and a new cloning point selected until it is right, or the newly cloned image can be re-cloned and moved slightly.

The newly cloned and re-cropped final image of the coin on the template background can then be saved under its own title, leaving the original background template free for other coin transfers.

The 'Final Result' – A Coin Portrait

The 'Final Result' produced after step 7 above (as seen in Figure 1) is a concise image of the new coin that presents both the obverse and reverse in a pleasing format on a consistent background. The joined photo will be the size of the combined, adjusted single photos but of course it can be further copied, cropped or resized as

required, either on the desktop or within email. Using computer snapshot software (such as the aforementioned 'SnapNDrag'), 'Interim' or 'Final' joined photos (or copies of either) can be further cropped, or perhaps joined in new combinations with other coins of the same type from the internet, right on the computer screen – it only takes a few seconds.

It is always important, of course, to save the final product of all this manipulation, plus some of the original, rejected photos of your coin in a backup hard drive. You do not want to lose any of your best images, and you want to be able to go back to review some of the earlier photos that might be more appealing in the future.

In Closing...

Parts of this minor-masterpiece imaging technique may be useful to anyone wanting to do their own coin photos, but I suspect most people would do a simple snapshot. Like most things though, with a little extra effort to create the images, and an organized computer file system, every collector could have an album full of their own attractive coin photos right at their fingertips.

Now, among all my other problems, I not only have to hope that my little old camera will keep working for the next 10 years, but I have to hope I don't need to find that girl with the boat and the chainsaw.



Figure 8 – Example of an 'Interim Result' Photo

This is the cropped result from the Figure 7 procedure. The obverse/reverse images are attached and cropped, but the background is usually uneven at this stage and a dividing line is left between the images, so I call it the 'Interim Result'.

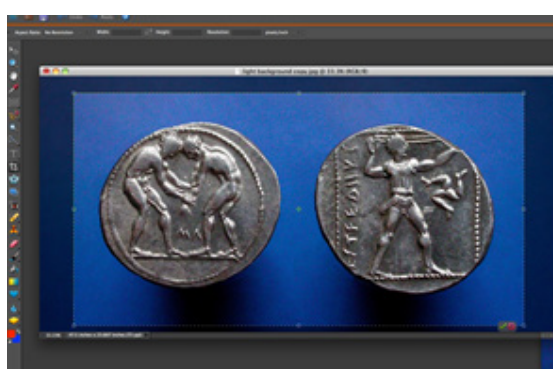
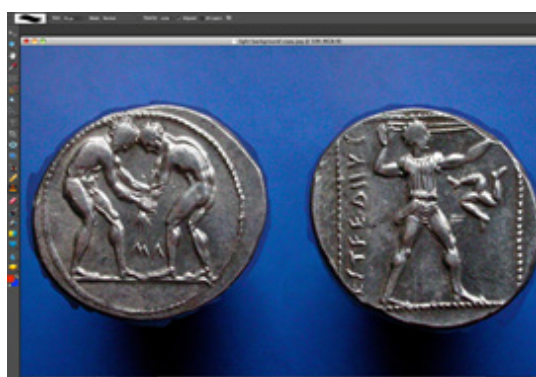
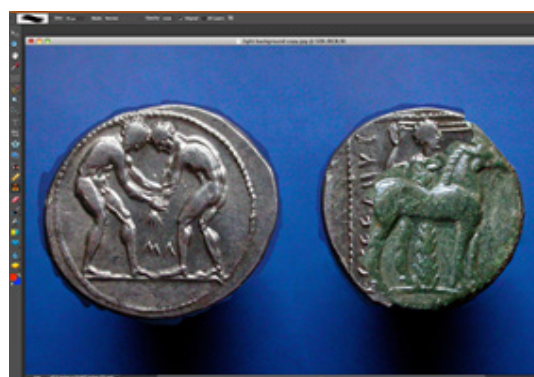
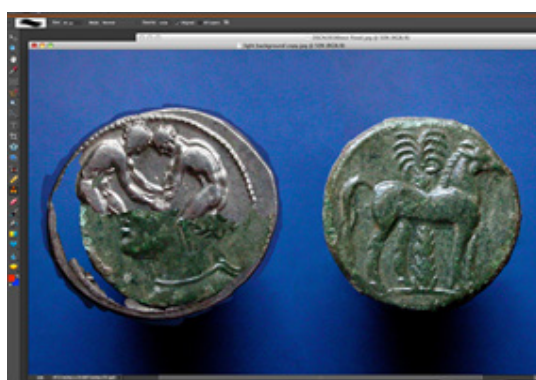


Figure 9 – Cloning of the Coin Images on Preset Background for the 'Final Result'

Using a background coin image template as a guide (a Carthage bronze), the new obverse/reverse images can be cloned from the original fixed and resized photos, or from the 'Interim Result' joined photo, directly onto the preset background. The obverse/reverse images are transferred one at a time, and then the new background is cloned over the perimeter overages before a final crop is made. An example of the completed 'Final Result' joined image can be seen in Figure 1.





Canadian Tire “Money” as a Numismatic Collectable

By Ermin Chow



Have you ever used Canadian Tire Money? Although not an official currency, it almost has the recognition as “Canada’s second currency” and is even accepted by some retailers not affiliated with Canadian Tire. Not only is it circulated as a loyalty coupon for the Canadian Tire Corporation but also as a unique numismatic item. Starting from humble beginnings, there are now around 60 different issues with various denominations and varieties of this numismatic collectible.

A Brief History of Canadian Tire

Some establishments choose to create their own loyalty program, but far fewer are even nearly as successful as the Canadian Tire Corporation’s “Cash Bonus Coupons,” informally known as Canadian Tire Money (See **figure 1**). The company was founded in 1922 under the name Hamilton Tire and Garage Ltd. in Toronto and renamed to Canadian Tire Corporation in 1927.

Bank Note Co. CBN, both printers of Canadian currency, to print their “currency.” Technically speaking, Canadian Tire Money is considered scrip, which is defined as a legal tender currency substitute, often in the form of an IOU or a gift certificate.

Overview of the Canadian Tire Money

Initially, the only coupons printed were the Gas Bar Coupons redeemable just for merchandise in store; however, the Store Coupons were added in 1961 and were redeemable both in the gas bar and in store. They were amalgamated into a single Store Coupon in 1985, redeemable in both the gas bars and stores. Presently, Canadian Tire Money is earned at Canadian Tire’s retail stores and gas bars but can only be redeemed for merchandise in store.

As a counterfeiting deterrent, all issues of Canadian Tire Money since 1992 include several innovative security features as well. In addition to the Gas Bar Coupons and Store Coupons, there are also 2 specialty series that were issued, which will be explained in detail later on. These are known as the Lubritorium series and the P. Simard Inc. series.

There have been numerous issues of Canadian Tire Money, each with its own minor revisions of the previous one. Currently, the denominations of Canadian Tire Money available are between 5¢ and \$2; the exclusion of smaller denominations is logical due to the elimination of the Canadian penny earlier this year. It is distributed at a rate of 0.4% in store and 4¢ per liter at the gas bar but only for cash and debit purchases. Historically, the rate of distribution has been much higher and was at 5% initially.



Figure 1

Canadian Tire first created its unique loyalty program in 1958 by issuing Gas Bar Coupons. Senior management believed in issuing a high quality coupon, so it contracted the British American Bank Note Co. (BABN) and the Canadian

Gas Bar Issues

The very first series ever created was the 1958 Issue, printed in 5 denominations – 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢, and \$1. This issue of Gas Bar Coupons was colored according to the denominations. It is to be noted that there are no dates on any of the Gas Bar Issues (see **figure 2**).

Subsequent series included odd denominations such as 1¢, 2¢, 3¢, 4¢, 15¢, 20¢, 30¢, 35¢, 40¢, 45¢, and 60¢, in addition to the regular denominations. There were 9 series of the Gas Bar Issues in total, with the majority of them appearing in 1962. The obverse of these unique pieces of scrip included a smiling tire running and holding hands with a coin. The slogan “We make your dollars go farther” is placed on its obverse. On the reverse, there is a map of Canada over a Canadian Tire store. Similar to legal tender currency, some of these coupons have one or two sets of serial numbers on them.

For Gas Bar Issues, there were 3 series which were actually printed by the Canadian Tire Corporation itself rather than the security printers BABN or CBN. These are found on ordinary bond paper, and not very many examples of the 4.8 million notes have survived. However, the notes in these series were only of low denomination, ranging from 1¢ to 4¢ and are extremely rare.

It is quite challenging to get a complete set of the Gas Bar Issues. However, collecting them is fun because of all the odd denominations created. The common issues are nice examples for beginners to start with. However, the scarcer issues can run to four-figure prices in nicer condition.



Figure 2

Store Coupons

Store Coupons were first issued in 1961 (See **figure 3**). These issues can be purchased very inexpensively, due to the high quantities printed. Many of the lower denominations had 10 million or more notes printed. The majority of them bear a portrait of the fictional “Sandy McTire,” assumed to represent a thrifty blue-collar Scottish person. Sandy McTire is still portrayed on the Canadian Tire Money today but was temporarily omitted on commemorative issues. The only denomination in the Store Coupon Series that may be considered odd is the 3¢ note, unlike the plethora of odd denominations in the Gas Bar Series.

A special issue was printed in 1972, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the company (See **figure 4**). The text is styled “50 Years of Service 1922-1972” and appears on a round background in place of Sandy McTire on the left of the note. Quite fittingly, a replica

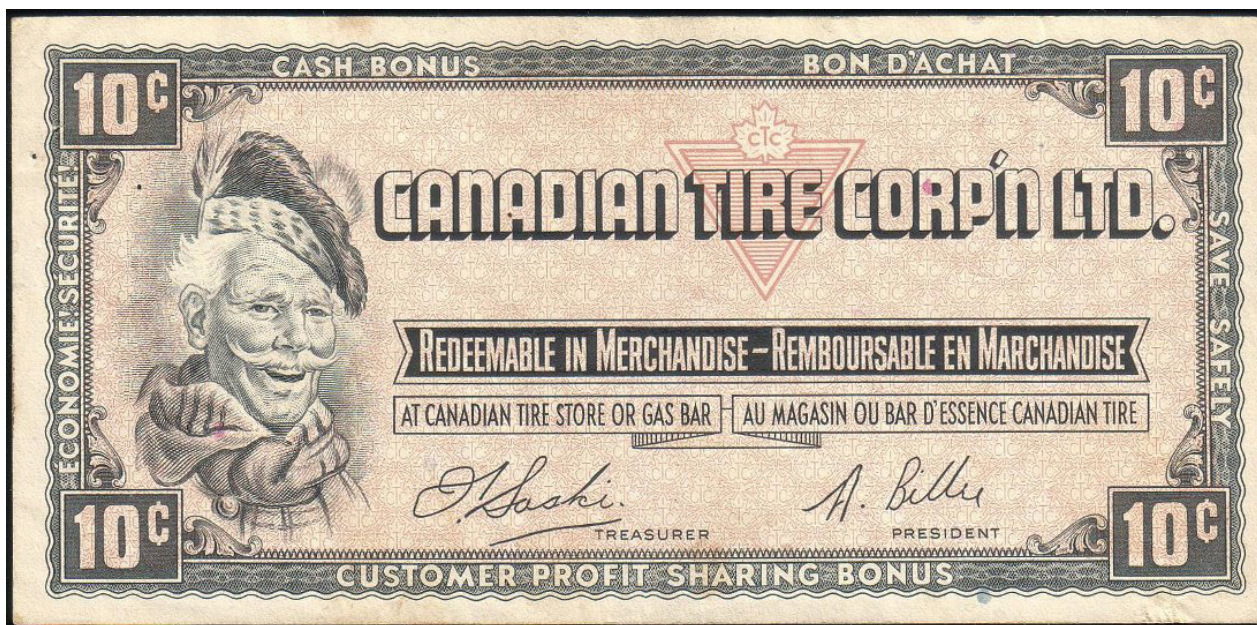


Figure 3



Figure 4

of a Canadian Tire store was on the reverse in place of the usual design. In 1974, due to the higher quantity of notes printed, a serial number preceded by a two-letter prefix was used as compared to the single letter prefix previously employed.

Other than the Olympic issue in 1976 for the XXI Olympiad in Montreal, the next few issues were relatively similar in appearance, and the differences among them were merely minor modifications until the design overhaul in 1992. The Olympic Issue had a maple leaf above the five Olympic rings and was also located where Sandy McTire would have been portrayed (See **figure 5**). The reverse featured an Olympic torch bearer as compared to the normal reverses. Although it is not common knowledge, the Olympic issue actually functioned as a fundraiser for the Montreal Olympics.

In 1992, the iconic design of the Canadian Tire Money was revamped, and the current design is quite similar to this particular one. Sandy McTire

was moved to the right, and the overall design was modernized (see **figure 6**). The serial number numbering system was modified to a 10-digit number, which eliminated the need for an alphabetical prefix. This new series was also printed in black ink, rather than the conventional red ink. Upgraded security features were also introduced to the series to prevent counterfeiting. The \$2 note, introduced in yellow in 1989, was printed in burgundy, and the \$1 note was printed in blue in the 1992 series.

In anticipation of the company's 75th anniversary in 1997, a special edition note was issued in 1996 displaying a special 75-year logo in place of the conventional Canadian Tire triangle logo (see **figure 7**). To complement the theme of the 75th anniversary, all serial numbers started with "75" for that issue. However, not all notes that came out in 1996 were the commemorative ones; in fact, a slight majority of the regular issue ones were also printed.

Specialized Series

One of the specialized series is the Lubritorium which had 4 distinct categories of coupons – Mor-Power Gas Bar, Canadian Tire Gas Bar, Pit Stops, and Pit Stop (see **figure 8** for an example of a Pit Stops Coupon). All these coupons were to be redeemed for oil changes or grease jobs and were printed on both ordinary bond and security bond cheque paper. As a marketing gimmick, these unusual coupons were worth double when redeemed in the Lubritorium and only worth face value when redeemed for cash.



Figure 5



Figure 6



Figure 7

Denominations included 2½¢, 5¢, 10¢, 15¢, and 20¢. Values were doubled when redeemed in the Lubritorium. All categories of the Lubritorium issues feature Sandy McTire, the thrifty Scotsman, on the left side of the obverse. These coupons were printed in an array of colors and did not have real signatures (they only had the signature of the fictional Sandy McTire). On the reverses, there were several designs with catchphrases such as "DO YOU KNOW?", "WE PAY HALF," and "FREE MEMBERSHIP."

Philippe Simard opened his first Canadian Tire Store in 1955 in Quebec City, and it was the first in the province of Quebec. Surprisingly, the Canadian Tire Money issued in Toronto was not used in Quebec until 1987, so Simard created his own P. Simard Inc. Gas Bar Coupons in 1964 and Store or Gas Bar Issue in 1972.

The Store or Gas Bar Issues were put out under the banner "Les Huiles Montcalm Inc.," which was the new banner for all of Simard's gas bars in Quebec. For the four series of Store or Gas Bar Issues, they were all printed in the "regular" denominations, from 3¢ to \$2. However, there were no 50¢ issues printed, and the \$2 denomination only appeared in the first couple of the Store or Gas Bar Issues.

Both the P. Simard Gas Bar Coupons and the Store or Gas Bar Issues are quite scarce, since the majority were destroyed in 1989. These coupons were printed by Quebec City printer T.J. Moore, rather than BABN or CBN. They were signed by a combination of P. Simard Inc. executives, including Jean P. Simard, Albert Simard, Andre Simard, and Jacques Simard.

Collecting Canadian Tire Money

Like all numismatic items, it is necessary to grade Canadian Tire Money, and its value is largely based on its condition and scarcity. Grading these unique pieces of scrip can often be a challenge, but is not overly different from grading Canadian paper money. Repeated practice will make any collector a pro.

Its commonly accepted book value is found in the *Bilodeau Guide*, and notes are graded on a scale from Good to Uncirculated. Although numeric grades are often assigned with descriptive grades, only the descriptive grades are usually used. Since most notes with a grade below Fine are generally not collectible, they are not listed in the *Bilodeau Guide* (see **figure 9** for the grading standards).

If a numismatist is interested in collecting or learning about Canadian Tire Money, there is the Canadian Tire Coupon Collectors Club which provides resources on the topic. Although it is based in Quebec, individuals worldwide are able to join this specialty club. Valuable information, including some used in writing this article, is available on its website www.ctccc.ca.

WEST EDMONTON COIN & STAMP



Jack Jensen tel: (780) 444-1156
OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTOR (780) 444-1175
ROYAL CANADIAN MINT fax: (780) 486-5243

#2720, 8882 - 170 Street West Edmonton Mall Edmonton, Alberta T5T 4J2

WE BUY & SELL, MAIL ORDER

GOLD	ESTATE JEWELLERY
SILVER	POCKET WATCHES
COIN & STAMP SUPPLIES	
PLATINUM	PAPER MONEY
COINS	MILITARIA
COLLECTOR CARDS	STAMPS
BULLION	INVESTMENT COUNSELLING

WE DO ESTATE APPRAISALS



Figure 8

Collecting Varieties

The \$2 notes are often different from the other denominations of the same year and are considered by some to be a variety. Signatures were signed by different executives, with different titles, for example, the CFO instead of the Treasurer. Replacement notes are an interesting variety to collect, because of the many different indications of them. They were issued for notes which did not pass quality control in the printing process. For some of the Gas Bar Issues, replacement notes have the same serial numbers as those they replaced. These are difficult for most collectors to identify, since they only have a slight variation in font or size of their serial numbers.

Later examples of replacement notes started with *, 9, 999, or 1 (see **figure 10**). However, some normal issue ones also started with 9, so one must consult reference material to confirm a note as being a replacement. For several of the Store Coupons, a larger, 4mm font on the serial numbers was used to indicate replacement notes (see **figure 11**). In the most recent issues, along with the four numbers/symbols all replacement notes started with, there is often a specified range of numbers which they can begin with. This varies with each series.

Other collectible varieties include subtle differences between notes, including differing serifs on letters, uncolored spots, varieties in individual letters, and varieties in the obverse/reverse designs. These varieties can be as small as a scratched plate that printed the note or be as obvious as having the word "VOID" printed once or twice on its obverse. Even with the signatures from the same signee, there can be varieties amongst the signatures different denominations in the same issue.

Canadian Tire Money in Circulation

Store Coupons are an everyday reality in Canadian Tire Stores and Gas Bars. Over \$100 million are given out annually in Store Coupons. Sometimes people save up for decades to accumulate thousands of the notes to make large purchases, such as a rider lawnmower. These as such often gain media attention, since it is a significant milestone to accumulate over \$1000 worth of Canadian Tire Money.

Grading Guide

UNC (Uncirculated)

A perfect note without creases or blemishes, with original colour, never used

AU (About Uncirculated)

A slightly damaged UNC note with small bends, ripples, or folds and was never folded in half

EF (Extremely Fine)

Crisp note, with minor creases, up to 1 creased centre fold, slightly rounded corners and original colours

VF (Very Fine)

Fairly crisp note, some signs of circulation, up to 2 creased centre folds, almost original colours and may have rounded corners

F (Fine)

Circulated note, firm, some colours are faded, more than 2 folds, but still a firm note

VG (Very Good)

Whole note, with edge damage, corner damage, fading of colour, and limp note

G (Good)

Very worn, dirty, extremely discolored, has tears or missing peices

Figure 9



Figure 10



Figure 11

Because the philosophy behind issuing Canadian Tire Money is to create a high quality loyalty program, numerous security features are used to reinforce the illusion of value. These include a watermark of the Canadian Tire triangle, fluorescent threads, micro-printing, raised ink, and a disappearing maple leaf. Newer issues even have the word VOID when photocopied.

In 2010, Canadian Tire issued its "currency" in coin form for the first time. A series of three \$1 coins appeared as promotional items (See **figure 12**), given out with a minimum \$25 purchase. These are accepted by the store as conventional Store Coupons, but only at face value, despite their being collector's items now. As an attempt to modernize, there has been a pilot project called "Canadian Tire Money Advantage" to convert Canadian Tire Money to an electronic currency in Nova Scotia. Across Canada, Canadian Tire Money can be collected on its store-branded MasterCard as well. Surprisingly, over \$1 billion in Canadian Tire Money has been circulated and is a recognizable symbol of the company.



Figure 12

Conclusion

With its roots entrenched in Canadian history, this numismatic collectible is often affectionately called Canada's second currency. Although exclusively circulated in Canadian Tire stores, even the circulation notes are fun to collect and study. For more serious collectors, it is possible to purchase the scarcer examples from many dealers in Canada. Due to the smaller collector base, Canadian Tire Money is not only a familiar Canadian icon but also an easy, inexpensive Canadian series to collect.

References

- <http://corp.canadiantire.ca/EN/ABOUTUS/Pages/Loyalty.aspx>
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_Tire_money
- <http://www.ctccc.ca/coupons-e.html>
- http://www.ctccc.ca/ONA_PPT.pdf
- Bilodeau, O (2009). Bilodeau Guide. 7th ed. Blainville QC: The Canadian Tire Coupon Collector's Club.



PENNYPRESS MINT

**Manufacturers of Medals & Tokens
Since 2000**

**Encasing Coins of the World
Since 2004**



P.O. Box 633
SPANISH FORK, UTAH 84660
USA

TELEPHONE: **801-318-5768**
EMAIL: encasedcoins@yahoo.com
WEBSITE: www.pennypressmint.com
KELLY P. FINNEGAN, PROPRIETOR



ANDREAS HOFER

-Patriot, sucker or sacrificial lamb ?

By Pierre Driessen



How goes the adage? - 'There is nothing new under the sun!' This is certainly true of the utter contempt with which governments treat their citizens and subjects, in the past and present. One very interesting and instructive example of this occurred during the Napoléonic era, namely in the Tyrol to a man named Andreas Hofer.

The region, which has traditionally been known as the Tyrol or the Tirol, as it can also be spelled, is located in the western Austrian Alps and forms the Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino Euro region, shared by Austria and Italy.

dynastic politics, its rule and control passed to the House of Hapsburg. There it remained, forming part of the Hapsburg hereditary lands, until the fall of the Austro-Hungarian Empire in 1919. The one exception was during the time of Napoléon. It is here that our story begins as part of the War of the Fifth Coalition of 1809 that pitted the alliance of Austria and Great Britain against Napoléon's France and its allies.

BACKGROUND:

From the start of the French Revolution, the Hapsburg rulers of the Austro-Hungarian Empire were its chief opponents. They tried to stop the spread of revolutionary ideas, contain the revolutionary government's territorial ambitions and restore the French monarchy. The 1793 guillotining of Queen Marie Antoinette, aunt of Franz II, Holy Roman Emperor and Archduke of Austria, only served to make their hatred more implacable.

As the Revolutionary government was replaced by the Directory, the Consulate and finally the First Empire, with Napoléon Bonaparte at its head, the Hapsburg domains and armies more than any other bore the brunt of the French onslaught. After every defeat, Hapsburg territory, subjects, treasure and influence were lost.

The Austrian Netherlands, present-day Belgium, were lost early on. This was followed by the loss of the wealthy states in Northern Italy and influence in Germany through the undermining of the Hapsburg position of Holy Roman Emperor. All came to a head at the Battle of Austerlitz, popularly known as the Battle of the Three Emperors, fought on 2 December 1805. It was Napoléon's most spectacular victory and an unmitigated disaster for Austria and her Russian ally.

In the resulting Treaty of Pressburg, signed on 26 December 1805, Austria accepted, or rather sued, for peace, paying a humiliating price. Vast territories were lost. France directly received



Image 1: map of the region of the Tyrol or the Tirol. The pink bits form part of Austria as the North and the South Tyrol, while the beige and purple are part of Italy as the autonomous regions of the South Tyrol - Alto Adige and Trentino.

This area of Europe has a long and proud history. In Roman times, it was divided between the provinces of Raetia, left of the Inn River, and Noricum. During the great tribal migrations of the early Middle Ages, it was settled by the Germanic Bavarii.

By the early Middle Ages, it had become part of the Holy Roman Empire, its direct rule changing hands numerous times. In 1363, after many twist and turns in the bewildering complex of Germanic

Piedmont, Parma and Piacenza. To the French controlled Kingdom of Italy, Austria ceded the Venetian territories she had gained under the Treaty of Campo Formio (18 October 1797) as well as Venetian Istria and Dalmatia. In addition, Napoléon was formally recognized as King of Italy.

To Bavaria, France's ally, Austria ceded the Tyrol, Vorarlberg, the free city of Augsburg and the Bishoprics of Brixen and Trent, Burgau, Eichstädt, Passau and Lindau. France's other allies, Württemberg and Baden, received the remainder of Austria's lands in Western Europe. In addition, Württemberg and Baden were recognized as kingdoms. Bavaria would be so in 1806. In total, Austria lost more than 3 million subjects and the resultant tax revenue. To add insult to injury, a huge indemnity of 40 million francs was also to be paid to France.

Austria's political prestige was further damaged by Napoléon's creation of the Confederation of the Rhine, with himself as protector, which encompassed many of the German states. This ended the ancient political entity of the Holy Roman Empire, whose title of emperor had become for all practical purposes hereditary to the House of Hapsburg. Its last emperor, Franz II, accepted the inevitable and formally dissolved it, creating himself Emperor of Austria as Franz I in 1806.

After his brilliant victory at Austerlitz, the French emperor appeared invincible. He redrew the political map of Europe, creating and deposing rulers at will, ending the pre-eminence of centuries old dynasties. Although harshly treated, Austria's Hapsburg ruling family was lucky that Napoléon's blunt foreign policy was somewhat buffered by France's skilled, wily and duplicitous minister of foreign affairs, Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord (1754 - 1838). He convinced his master that the continued existence of the lands ruled by the Hapsburgs as a political unit was in his and France's interest.

Talleyrand argued that an Austrian state would act as a buffer against Prussian and Russian ambitions. Austria's ruler could do little to oppose Napoléon; he acquiesced and bided his time for an opportunity to throw off the French yoke. This opportunity appeared to come in 1809.

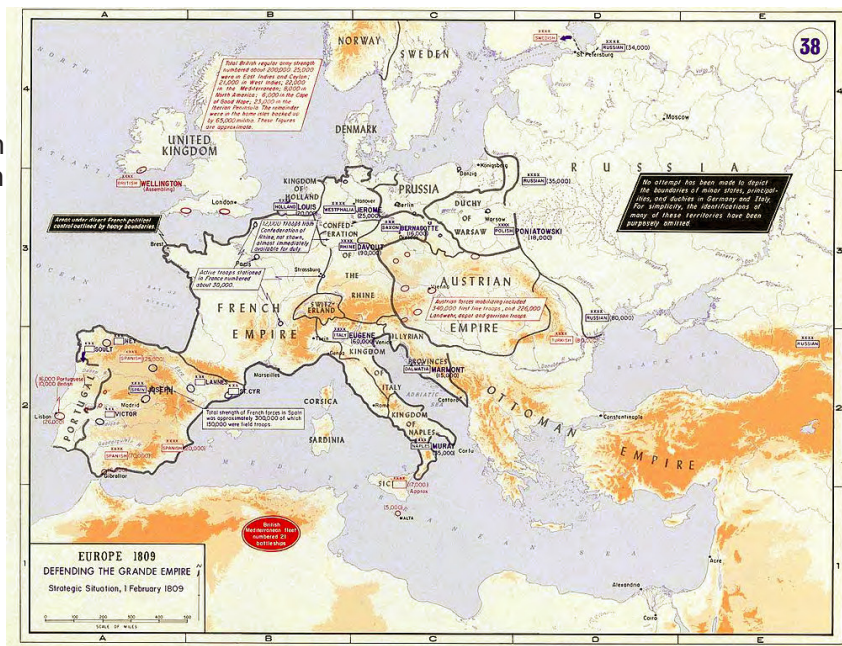


Image 2: map of the strategic situation in the Europe of 1809, showing the main belligerents: the French First Empire, the Austrian Empire, Great Britain, Prussia and Russia.

Several factors led the Austrians to this conclusion. The Austrian emperor, his ministers and army commanders had been not been idle since 1805. As she licked her wounds, Austria, just as Napoléon's other main continental enemies, Prussia and Russia, began to reform her economy, civil and military administrations, taxation, finances and industries. Under the supervision of Archduke Karl (5 September 1771 – 30 April 1847), brother of Franz I, the army was reorganized, modernized, retrained and re-equipped. Universal military service was introduced.

Another factor was Napoléon's new venture in the Iberian Peninsula. Here the emperor's attention and his best troops were busy imposing French rule following the abdication of Spanish King Carlos IV (11 November 1748 – 20 January 1819) under duress in favour of Napoléon.

In the Germany states - ruled directly or by her allies - the harsh and arbitrary nature of French administration and occupation, the heavy taxation, trade and economic policies, billeting of troops and forced conscription had awakened nationalist and patriotic sentiment amongst the general populace and officials. This became very evident to Franz I during his 1808 progress through the Austrian domains, where the Austrian Emperor was warmly welcomed, discovering that his subjects supported him, despite the recent military calamities.



Image 3: posthumous portrait of Andreas Hofer. Artist and date unknown. Located in the collection of the Tiroler Kaiserjägermuseum, Innsbruck, Austria.

The French creations and puppet states were very unstable. Simmering resentment threatened to become full-fledged rebellions, as happened in the newly created Kingdom of Westphalia under King Jérôme, the youngest of Napoléon's brothers. To keep a lid on things, reprisals became more draconian. The French emperor ordered that the village at the centre of a rebellion be raised to the ground and 30 hostages executed. This number increased to 60 and then 200.

Elsewhere, resentment was also reaching dangerous levels. Despite her alliance with France, Russia made an informal agreement with Austria to remain neutral in any coming conflict. Tzar Alexander I was growing weary of being Napoléon's ally and all the hardships this entailed.

He felt it below his dignity to have to deal with the Corsican upstart. The economic strain on Russia of the terms of the Treaty of Tilsit (7 July 1807), especially the application of Napoléon's Continental System, designed to cripple Britain economically by closing all European ports to her vessels, tested the loyalty of the tzar's subjects. Alexander was beginning to discover that even the powers of an autocrat had their limits.

The reports by Klemens von Metternich (15 May 1773 – 11 June 1859), Austria's ambassador to France, about Napoléon's domestic troubles added further encouragement to the Austrian pro-war cause. The French population was growing weary of the constant state of war, which had existed for most of the period since the outbreak of the Revolution in 1789. It was swallowing entire generations. In 1808 alone, 270,000 young men between the ages of 16 and 18 were drafted into the army, to replenish the losses suffered in Spain and elsewhere and this from a country with a population of 27 million.

The nature and composition of the French armies had drastically changed. Gone were many of the battle-hardened veterans of the Grande Armée of 1805. By 1808 the majority of the ranks were composed of young raw non-battle tested recruits. In addition, the proportion of French to foreigners was tipping dangerously toward the latter.

The difficulties in the army were further complicated by infighting amongst its top commanders. This caused the erosion of cooperation and seriously hampered the operational efficiency of French arms, which resulted in lost opportunities, tied down resources and cost battles, men and material. One illustrative example is the refusal of Marshal Jean-de-Dieu Soult (29 March 1769 – 26 November 1851), despite his emperor's direct orders, to come to the aid of his colleague Marshal André Masséna (May 6, 1758 – April 4, 1817) during Napoléon's campaign against Wellington in Spain and Portugal. This forced Masséna's retreat and the failure of the French to push the British out of the Iberian Peninsula. It caused many casualties and loss of material. More important, it left the French emperor with a war on two fronts when in 1809, events in Central Europe blew up. It would eventually swallow more than 300,000 French troops, many of them precious veterans, badly needed elsewhere. Notwithstanding these challenges, the French army was still the most awesome fighting force of the time, led by the most talented commander of the age. Its opponents would still need years to even come close to approaching the qualities of its command structure, infantry, cavalry and above all artillery.



Image 4: Andreas Hofer's Sandhof Inn, in Saint-Leonhard in Passeiertal (Passeyrthale), now a protected monument.

On the political and administrative front, all was not well either. There were constant rebellions, especially in the Vendée, and numerous plots, the most important of which reached the highest levels of Napoléon's government. It was discovered in 1808 that the Minister of Police, Joseph Fouché (21 May 1759 – 25 December 1820), and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Talleyrand, were openly shopping their services and support for a coup. For various reasons, Fouché kept his position, while Talleyrand was merely dismissed from his post, retaining his wealth and titles. Joachim Murat, King of Naples and Napoléon's brother-in-law, was also suspected through intercepted letters to him from the two chief conspirators, but nothing linked him directly.

This affair, more than any other, exposed the fragility of Napoléon's rule. Despite, and perhaps because of, all the honours, titles and wealth he had lavished on his officials and companions in arms, few could be counted on to be completely loyal. In fact, as the empire expanded and the wealth of its high civil and military officials grew, the more they began to put their own interests ahead of those of the state. The Austrians were well aware of these facts.

The Austrian emperor, a conservative and cautious man by nature, at times to the point of paralysis, was further emboldened by the promise of his arch-rival Prussia to put 80,000 men into the

field against the French. Last but not least was the promise of large financial subsidies by Great Britain.

Appealing to the new Germanic patriotism, on 9 April 1809, Archduke Karl crossed the River Inn, invading Napoleon's ally Bavaria with 170,000 men. No declaration of war was made, as the Austrians presented this conflict as a War of Liberation. The northern route of invasion, instead of the southern through Italy, had been deliberately chosen. By invading Bavaria, Napoléon's largest German ally, Austria called into question his role as Protector of the Confederation of the Rhine and guarantor of the territorial integrity of its member states.

It was hoped that upon seeing the vast numbers of men and material of the newly organized Austrian army, the Bavarians would join, giving the other German states licence to do the same. It would have ignited the flames of rebellion in a vast area and seriously weakened the French emperor. It did not happen. The King of Bavaria, Maximilian I Joseph (27 May 1756 – 13 October 1825), and his subjects remained loyal to their French ally.

Despite the promising signs, the hoped for mass rising of the German peoples, even in humiliated and decimated Prussia, did not materialize. Most risings were small and local, relatively easily

suppressed by French garrison troops or those of local rulers loyal to Napoléon. The only Germanic region to answer Karl's appeal was the Tyrol, which rose en mass against her Bavarian occupiers.

This is not surprising, since the enmity between Bavaria and Austria had a very long history, as both maneuvered for territory and influence in the Germanic sphere. The Tyrol had once been part of the estates of the Dukes of Bavaria, who had finally lost it to the House of Hapsburg. This had occurred in the mists of time, and since then, the Tyroleans had become loyal Hapsburg subjects.

The Austrian gamble was a serious miscalculation. Archduke Karl had reluctantly agreed to the war. He felt that much was still to be done before Austria would be ready to face the French, but the pro-war party at the court in Vienna proved to be too strong. The pro-war argument was bolstered by the need for British gold, which was tied to Austria attacking the French. Coffers were nearly empty, and the state was practically bankrupt. The reorganization, reequipping and continued mobilization of the army, French war indemnities and the losses in territory and tax paying subjects made the situation desperate. This coupled with the humiliation beyond reconciliation through the loss of pride and prestige blinded the Austrians to reality.

Anticipated Russian support was not forthcoming, as she was preoccupied with wars against Turkey and Sweden. With the tacit consent of the French, Russia exacted Finland from Sweden. Similarly, the promised Prussian support did not materialize, as her weak willed King Friedrich Wilhelm III (3 August 1770 – 7 June 1840), lost his nerve. Austria was alone, except for the British gold, which did arrive. Despite this, she put up a valiant struggle and gave Napoléon and his commanders a run for their money.

Napoléon was advised of Austrian mobilizations and plans while on campaign in Spain on 31 December 1808. He was back in Paris 23 January 1809 and immediately began preparations. On paper, the French had ample resources available to deal with the developing situation. French troops in the area numbered Davout's III Corps of 80,000 men, the Confederation of the Rhine could provide 88,000 and Viceroy Eugène de Beauharnais an additional 150,000 from Italy. Many of these were not frontline troops however, but rather garrison and occupation forces. So he ordered the Guard and some additional troops recalled from Spain. These were in addition to the recruits, which had been called to the depots from the classes of 1809 and 1810. By late May 1809, Napoléon anticipated

he would have 177,000 men in the newly formed Grand Army of Germany, with a projected additional 134,000 new recruits from Poland, Saxony and Italy.

Expecting the main Austrian invasion would be into Italy, Napoléon hoped to defeat the Austrian forces in the north before they could be reinforced from the south. The Austrians in turn hoped to defeat the Army of the Confederation of the Rhine before the French emperor arrived. That is why the main Austrian army advanced into Bavaria.

French troop movements and concentrations around Augsburg, with the threat of the capture of Vienna by rapid march, altered Archduke Karl's initial invasion route from along the upper Danube River to the Inn River. This redeployment of Austrian troops delayed the invasion plans by a month. It bought Napoléon vital time.

The main Austrian offensive into Bavaria was coordinated with that of the invasions on other fronts by smaller Austrian armies. Archduke Johann (20 January 1782 – 11 May 1859), younger brother of Emperor Franz I, commanded the forces invading Napoléon's Kingdom of Italy with 48,000 troops, while Archduke Ferdinand (April 25, 1781 – November 5, 1850), cousin of the Austrian emperor, attacked Napoléon's Polish allies in the Grand Duchy of Warsaw with 36,000 men.

The invasions on multiple fronts forced the French to divert resources and prevented the concentration of forces and reinforcements to be brought up to counter the main Austrian invasion. In Italy, Archduke Johann met with initial success, because Franco-Italian forces were dispersed. He defeated Viceroy Eugène de Beauharnais, who commanded the Army of Italy, at the Battle of Sacile on 16 April 1809, advancing as far as the vicinity of Verona. Soon, the tables were turned, as Eugène, advised by the able General Étienne-Jacques-Joseph-Alexandre MacDonald (17 November 1765 – 7 September 1840), was able to concentrate his forces and with reinforcements took the offensive. Following the defeat of his brother at the Battle of Eckmühl (21 - 22 April 1809), Archduke Johann was forced to start withdrawing from Italy to attempt to link-up with Archduke Karl for the defence of Vienna.

Johann's forces retreated in good order and performed well, fighting off the Franco-Italian attack at Battle of Caldiero (27 - 30 April). He was beaten at the Battle of Piave River (8 May) and retreated across the frontier. Again he was beaten at the Battle of Raab in Hungary on 14 June 1809. This defeat, and having diverted some troops in



Image 5: 20 Kreuzer 1809 - Insurrection Coinage - struck during Andreas Hofer's administration of the Tyrol, at the Hall mint.

Obverse: shows the arms of the Tyrol, crowned eagle facing left, with wings outstretched, wreath surrounding head. The heraldic device goes back to the 13th century. On flags, the eagle is red in colour.
Legend reads: GEFÜRSTETE GRAFSCHAFT TIROL (*Princely County of Tyrol*).

Reverse: shows denomination of 20 KREUZER with crossed branches of laurel (*left*) and palm (*right*) leaves. Standing for victory and peace respectively, a common design feature found on lesser denomination coins of Austrian Hapsburg lands during the era of the Holy Roman Empire. Date below the crossed branches
Legend reads: NACH DEM CONVENTIONS FUSS (*Struck according to the Convention standard*).

Despite the chaos of war, Andreas Hofer found the time to make a statement with the striking of coins. With them he proclaimed to Tyroleans and the world that the yoke of Bavarian and French occupation had been thrown off.

What is interesting is that this is the first time, since the Tyrol had become a part of the Hapsburg hereditary lands, that a coin specifically for the Tyrol, with distinct Tyrolean motifs, was struck. Normally coins for circulation in Hapsburg hereditary lands were of the same design throughout these lands, except for the heraldic device for the region's mint, which was more prominent within the overall heraldic device of the Hapsburg ruler and at times the legend with titles was specific for the region. Unlike this coin, which does not have titles nor a portrait of the Hapsburg ruler, but rather shows the armorial device of the Tyrol prominently, not as part of the armorial device of the Hapsburg ruler.

Why was this? Had the dies of the coinage struck at Hall for the Hapsburg rulers been removed to Vienna during the hand over to the Bavarians? Had the dies been destroyed by the Bavarians? It would appear that these coins, the 1 and 20 Kreuzer (*see images 5 and 6*) were not officially sanctioned by Vienna. Yet the design is not crude and for the little time available to Hofer, remarkably well and professionally executed.

Did Hofer have these struck on his own volition? Was he granted permission from the Austrian government in Vienna? In all likelihood it was the former, as anything approaching this design is not repeated until Austria became a republic following WW I. On the other hand, perhaps authorities in Vienna had something prepared just in case. Some of the design elements such as the branches on the reverse suggest this, as these are reminiscent of those found on Austrian coins prior to the dissolution of the Holy Roman Empire.

Mintage numbers are unknown, although it would seem logical that few would have been struck, considering the short and turbulent duration of Hofer's administration of the Tyrol. Fewer still should remain, as the logical action of the French and Bavarians when reasserting their authority after quelling the rebellion would have been to remove all possible traces of the rebellion. One of these actions would have been calling in, confiscating and melting as many of the coins as possible.

details: silver (AR), 6.64 g, 28 mm, edge: leaf design (*feuiller*).

references: Krause 149, Les Monnaies Napoléoniennes (1795-1815) 808, Herinek 824, Jaeget / Joeckel 169.



Image 6: 1 Kreuzer 1809 - Insurrection Coinage - struck during Andreas Hofer's administration of the Tyrol, at the Hall mint.

Obverse: shows the arms of the Tyrol, crowned eagle facing left, with wings outstretched, wreath surrounding head. The heraldic device goes back to the 13th century. On flags, the eagle is red in colour. **Legend** reads: GEFÜRSTETE GRAFSCHAFT TIROL (*Princely County of Tyrol*).

Reverse: shows denomination of EIN KREUZER and date of 1809 within a wreath composed of a branch of palm (*left*) and of laurel (*right*) leaves. Standing for peace and victory respectively.

This copper 1 Kreuzer and the silver 20 Kreuzer depicted in image 5 are the coinage issued during the short administration of Andreas Hofer in 1809.

Mintage numbers are unknown, although it would seem logical that few would have been struck, considering the short and turbulent duration of Hofer's administration of the Tyrol. Fewer still should remain, as the logical action of the French and Bavarians when reasserting their authority after quelling the rebellion would have been to remove all possible traces of the rebellion. One of these actions would have been calling in, confiscating and melting as many of the coins as possible.

details: copper (Æ), ? g, 24 mm, edge: leaf design (*feuiller*).
references: Krause 148, Les Monnaies Napoléoniennes (1795 - 1815) 810.

an attempt to defend the entire border, prevented Johann from bringing sufficient reinforcements to the decisive Battle of Wagram (5 – 6 July) to aid his brother in a meaningful way. On the other hand, Eugène was able to bring significant reinforcements to help his stepfather.

Napoléon learned of the invasion of Bavaria on 12 April 1809, via the latest in technology, the military telegraph. He left for the theatre of war on 13 April, arriving with his trademark speed at headquarters located at Donauwörth in Bavaria on 19 April. Here he took personal command from his chief of staff, Marshall Louis-Alexandre Berthier (20 February 1753 – 1 June 1815).

Berthier was a chief of staff second to none, but as an army or battlefield commander, he was utterly lost. His inability to develop decisive strategy had added confusion to deployments and allowed

French forces to be dispersed over a wide area. This caused delays and several close calls. It was only through the superb military talent and some luck that the III Corps, commanded by Marshal Louis-Nicolas d'Avout (10 May 1770 – 1 June 1823), better known as Davout the Iron Marshal, narrowly escaped defeat at the hands of the Austrians. The Bavarians were engaged in a fighting retreat against the numerically superior enemy; rain and muddy roads, which delayed the Austrian advance, helped them.

With the German and Davout's troops at his disposal, Napoléon fought five battles in five days at Teugen-Hausen (19 April), Abensberg (20 April), Landshut (21 April), Eckmühl (22 April) and Ratisbon (23 April), not permitting the Austrians time to catch their breath. This had its own dangers for the French, as the Austrians retreated, they did so on their own lines of communication and toward

the main body of their army. The French and their allies were moving further away from their depots, stretching their lines of communication and supply, and running low on munitions. Despite the valiant resistance put up by the Austrians, Archduke Karl was driven back across the Danube River and into Bohemia. The road to Vienna was open. On 13 May 1809, the Hapsburg capital fell after a brief bombardment. Austrian resistance was fierce. The Austrians had dug in and built formidable defenses on the far side of the Danube. Napoléon discovered this while attempting to cross the Danube via the Island of Lobau, was repulsed and forced to retreat across the river. For the Austrians, it was a tactical victory. Archduke Karl, however, failed to press the advantage and capitalize on his superior numbers. The French had 79,000, while Karl had 110,000 men plus a possible 48,000 reinforcements close by. While also waiting for reinforcements, Napoléon ordered the Island of Lobau fortified as a forward base. As the French were gathering their forces to decisively attack the Austrians outside Vienna, events elsewhere were developing, especially in a rather insignificant area, the Tyrol.

TYROL and ANDREAS HOFER:

Andreas Hofer was born on 22 November 1767 in Saint-Leonhard in Passeiertal (*Passeyrthale*), now located in the present day Italian part of the Tyrol, son of Joseph Hofer (1723 - 1774) and Maria Aigentler. He inherited the Sandhof Inn upon his father's death. Andreas expanded into a variety of pursuits, including brandy making and horse-trading, to save the ailing inn. He succeeded and more, gaining the nickname Sandwirt or Lord of the Sand. On 21 July 1788, he married Anna Ladurner vom Plonerhof. His first child and only son was born in 1794, followed by six daughters. Some sources place the total number of Hofer's children at 14; regardless, it appears he was a busy man.

On 22 July 1790, he went as an elected representative to the Tyrolean parliament at Innsbruck. He also served as the leader of the Passeiertal Rifle Company, taking part in the War of the First Coalition of 1796/97 against Napoléon. In 1805, following the Tyrol's transfer to Bavarian control as part of the territorial concessions Austria made to France and her allies in the Peace of Pressburg (26 December 1805) following the battle of Austerlitz, Hofer was given the task of organizing the resistance against the Bavarian occupation of the Tyrol for the districts of Vintschgau and Passeiertal.

Under Bavaria administration, the Tyrol was now within the French sphere of influence as part of

the Confederation of the Rhine. This meant that her citizens would be conscripted into the Bavarian army and could be forced to fight against their former brethren in Austrian lands. The Tyrol had held special status amongst the Hapsburg domains, whose rulers had respected Tyrolean traditions and privileges, due to the region's strategic importance. Bavarian rule changed this. Immediately following the hand over, Bavarian King Maximilian I Joseph (27 May 1756 – 13 October 1825) sought to assert his control by introducing economic, administrative and religious reforms. To assimilate his new lands, as part of the Bavarian constitutional reforms of 1808, the Tyrol was integrated into Southern Bavaria and subdivided into three districts, losing its unique administrative character in the process. These changes led to disruption in the Tyrol's economy, and a resultant decline set in. Coupled with the loss of identity and the assaults on her traditionally conservative Catholic religious values by the Bavarians, further gravely insulted by Napoléon's imprisonment of Pope Pius VII (14 August 1742 – 20 August 1823) in 1809, led to increasing resentment, then passive and finally active resistance to Bavarian rule.

As early as 1806, a Tyrolean delegation, amongst which was Andreas Hofer, traveled to Vienna to make formal plans for insurrection in the Tyrol as the opportunity arose. This was part of Archduke Johann's overall plans for resistance against the French, which also included the establishment of a militia (Landwehr) in Hapsburg hereditary lands and Bohemia, to harness greater manpower resources. In early 1809, Hofer's role was expanded to organizing resistance for all of the Tyrol by the archduke. As Austrian forces advanced on their northern and southern fronts, Hofer, on 9 April 1809, proclaimed the Tyrolean cry in the name of Emperor Franz I.

The entire region exploded into a well-organized rebellion. Hofer on 11 April 1809, leading 5000 Tyrolean militia, captured 420 Bavarians of the 4th Light Infantry Battalion at Sterzing in the South Tyrol. The capital of Innsbruck was liberated by the Tyrolean militia (Landsturm) on 12 April in the First Battle of the Bergisel. The Bavarian Lieutenant General Baron Kinkel surrendered the city's garrison of 3,860 Bavarian soldiers on 13 April. Elsewhere, General of Division Baptiste Pierre Bisson, leading 2,050 French conscripts, was forced to surrender after marching into an ambush. The ammunition, muskets, guns and equipment captured kept the rebels well supplied and made them more formidable.

In coordination with Archduke John's invasion of northern Italy, the Austrians, commanded by



Image 7: The execution of Andreas Hofer by firing squad after his death sentence by the military tribunal on 20 February 1810 at Mantua, Italy. Artist and date unknown.

Feldmarschallleutnant Johann Gabriel Chasteler de Courcelles (22 January 1763 – 7 May 1825), invaded the Tyrol with 10,000 men. The combined regular Austrian troops and Tyrolean rebels now caught the attention of Napoléon, as they began to raid beyond the borders of the Tyrol into northern Italy and southern Bavaria. This required the diversion of much needed troops for garrison duty to protect lines of communication and drew Napoléon's personal attention.

To stabilize the situation, Napoléon sent Marshal François Joseph Lefebvre (25 October 1755 – 14 September 1820), commanding the VII Corps of Bavarian regulars, into the region. On 11 May, he relieved the Bavarian garrison of the Kufstein Fortress, and on 13 May, defeated Feldmarschallleutnant Chasteler at the Battle of Wörgl. Following several subsequent actions, on 19 May, he took Innsbruck. The rebellion seemed to be suppressed.

Nothing could have been further from the truth. No sooner had Lefebvre left, than the Tyrolean rebels engaged the III Bavarian Division under Lieutenant General Deroy, who was forced to abandon Innsbruck and retreat to the Fortress of Kufstein on 29 May. It was not until after the Battles of Wagram (5 - 6 July) and Znaim (12 July), and the signing of the Armistice of Znaim, that additional French troops could be sent.

This was followed on 14 October by the Treaty of Schönbrunn, through which France imposed harsh terms on Austria. More loss of Austrian territory

and subjects resulted, including a huge indemnity of 85 million francs. Bavaria received Salzburg; the Duchy of Warsaw gained West Galicia, while Russia, despite not honouring the spirit of her treaty with France, got the district of Tarnopol. France gained Trieste and Croatia south of the Sava River. That was not all, for as the British publication *The Gentleman's Magazine* remarked on the treaty:

*"This Treaty is certainly one of the most singular documents in the annals of diplomacy. We see a Christian King, calling himself the father of his people, disposing of 400,000 of his subjects, like swine in a market. We see a great and powerful Prince condescending to treat with his adversary for the brushwood of his own forests. We see the hereditary claimant of the Imperial Sceptre of Germany not only condescending to the past innovations on his own dominions, but assenting to any future alterations which the caprice or tyranny of his enemy may dictate with respect to his allies in Spain and Portugal, or to his neighbours in Italy. — We see through the whole of this instrument the humiliation of the weak and unfortunate Francis, who has preferred the resignation of his fairest territories to restoring to his vassals their liberties, and giving them that interest in the public cause which their valour would have known how to protect. — O, the brave and loyal, but, we fear, lost Tyrolese!"*¹

For the Tyrol it meant a return to Bavarian domination, this despite assurances by the Austrian Emperor Franz I himself on 29 May that she would never be separated from Austria again. As late as 3 October, the emperor had awarded Hofer a medal for bravery. All throughout, despite the retreat of Archduke Johann's regular troops from the Tyrol and northern Italy in a desperate attempt to link with those of Archduke Karl, the Tyrolean rebels had fought and won.

Refusing to recognize the armistice signed after the Battle of Wagram, Hofer and his followers fought on. They again defeated the French on 13 - 14 August at the Battle of Mount Isel, after which Hofer became regent in the Tyrol in the name of the emperor, assuming supreme civil and military command. Eugène de Beauharnais' Franco-Italian troops had succeeded, after initial setbacks, in driving Archduke Johann from Italy. Eugène's troops reinforced Napoléon at a critical juncture, contributing to the victory at Wagram.

When engaged with what he considered more important matters in Bavaria and Northern Italy, the French emperor had initially said of the conflict in the Tyrol:

"Let the Austrians do what they will with the Tyrol; under no circumstances do I want to become engaged in a mountain-based war." ²

After the rebels had resisted his troops for many months, his attitude had changed. During the peace negotiations after Wagram, Napoléon refused Austrian attempts to keep the Tyrol, stating:

"The Tyrol will never again belong to the House of Austria, for this country separates Germany from Italy and touches Switzerland. I will never allow this country to be outside my influence." ³

On the same day of the signing of the Treaty of Schönbrunn, Eugène was ordered to pacify the Tyrol. In an attempt to bring the Tyrolean situation to a quick end, for it was threatening to become a long and bloody conflict, not unlike the Ulcer of Spain, the viceroy tried to be practical and end the conflict as quickly and efficiently as possible. He published an edict to this effect, making the rebels an offer of amnesty if they laid down their arms immediately.

From:

"Eugene Napoleon, Arch Chancellor of State of the French Empire, Viceroy of Italy, Prince of Venice and Commander in of the Army of Italy to the People of the Tyrol; dated Head



Image 8: Monument to Andreas Hofer at Bergisel near Innsbruck by the artist Heinrich Natter.

Quarters, Villach, October 26th 1809:

Tyroleans! Peace is concluded between his majesty the emperor of the French, king of Italy, Protector of the confederation of the Rhine my august father and sovereign and his majesty the emperor of Austria.

Peace therefore prevails every where except among you - you only do not enjoy its benefits.

Listening to perfidious suggestions, you have taken up arms against your laws, and have subverted them, and now you are gathering the bitter fruits of your rebellion; terror governs your cities; idleness and misery reign in you; discord is in the midst of you and disorder every where prevails. His majesty the emperor and king, touched with your deplorable situation and with the testimonies of repentance which several of you have conveyed to his throne, has expressly consented, in the treaty of peace, to pardon your errors and misconduct.

I then bring you peace since I bring you pardon. But I declare to you, that pardon is granted you only on the condition that you return to your obedience and duty, that you voluntarily lay down your arms, and that you offer no resistance to my troops.

Charged with the command of the armies which surround you, I come to receive your submission, or compel you to submit.

The army will be preceded by commissioners appointed by me to hear your complaints, and to do justice to the demands you may have to make - But know that these commissioners



Image 9: A 1959 official Austrian government commemorative Andreas Hofer 50 shilling coin issue in silver, celebrating 150 year anniversary of The Tyrol Insurrection, 1809 - 1959.

can only listen to you when you have laid down your arms.

*Tyrolean! If your complaints and demands be well founded, I hereby promise that justice shall be done you."*⁴

Despite this offer, Hofer and his men continued the fight. With more Bavarian, French and Italian troops pouring into the region led by a new commander, Marshal Drouet d'Erlon (July 29, 1765 – January 25, 1844), the balance swung, and after a four-day battle, the Bavarians, led by their Crown Prince Ludwig (25 August 1786 – 29 February 1868), entered Innsbruck in triumph. On 1 November, at the 4th Battle of Isel, the Tyroleans were finally defeated. Under the terms of Viceroy Eugène's general amnesty, Hofer and his followers surrendered to the Franco-Bavarian authorities, stating:

*"Against Napoleon's invincible power we can not continue the war, completely abandoned by Austria we would have exposed ourselves to irreparable misery. I can not command you anymore without guaranteeing further disaster and inevitable catastrophe."*⁵

Additional considerations for surrender were the approach of winter, the deplorable state of the economy, possible famine due to crop failures as farmers were away from their fields fighting and the general knowledge that Austria had abandoned them by signing the Tyrol over to Napoléon as part of the Peace of Schönbrunn. Earlier many of the rebels had already begun to go home of their own volition as the conflict continued to drag on. Hofer returned to his home valley, where on 12 November 1809, he received reports of Austrian

victories. Breaking the terms of the general amnesty, he called for a renewed insurrection. The few who answered his call were easily defeated. The reports proved to be false. Hofer, his wife, son and several companions fled to the mountains. Some guerrilla activity persisted, but by December 1809, the Tyrol had been pacified.

The French authorities placed a 1500 Gulden bounty on his head. Shortly afterward, on 5 January 1810, Hofer was betrayed by Franz Raffl, one of his neighbours. On 21 January 1810, the Tyrolean resistance leader, his wife and son were



Image 10: 200 year anniversary - 2009 official Austrian government commemorative Andreas Hofer 5 Euro coin issue in silver. Celebrating Hofer as a fighter for Tyrolean Freedom.

captured by troops of the Kingdom of Italy. His wife and son were released on 30 January. When Napoléon learned of his capture, he ordered Hofer tried. The former rebel leader was taken to Mantua in Northern Italy, tried on 19 February 1810 by military tribunal, sentenced to death and executed by firing squad the following day.

Napoléon's personal interference in Andreas Hofer's trial and certain execution served as a warning to other potential rebels. It also betrays the fact that the emperor considered him a threat to French hegemony in the region. Hofer was buried in Mantua in the cemetery of the Church of San Michelle. In 1823, his remains were transferred to his native Tyrol and interred in the Franciscan Church in Innsbruck. His wife, Anna died in 1836. For Tyroleans, the re-imposition of Bavarian-French rule was rapid. On 28 February 1810, the Tyrol was divided between Bavaria and the newly created French controlled Illyrian Provinces. Conscription, one of the causes for the rebellion, was reintroduced. In fact, Tyroleans served with the Grande Armée during the 1812 Russian Campaign.

Andreas Hofer, like countless other subjects, had served his monarch faithfully, risked all and paid the ultimate price. Like them, he had been a useful instrument to the ambitions of the ruling dynasties of the era. He was promised support, yet, when no longer useful, was left to his own devices. Nowhere is there a record of the Austrian emperor or officials making a plea for clemency on his behalf to the military tribunal in Mantua or to the French emperor who thought Hofer important enough to interfere in his trial directly. It appears that the Austrians were actually relieved to get rid of him. He was an uncomfortable reminder of their arrogance and failures, which had cost the lives of countless soldiers, militia and civilians. In all likelihood, Hofer, to his mind, in serving his monarch, was serving his fellow Tyroleans and fighting for their freedom from injustice. He must have expected the Austrian emperor to have kept his word and provided the promised support. Instead, Hofer had been sacrificed on the twin altars of political expediency and realpolitik.

Another reason for Hapsburg inaction on Hofer's behalf may have been the inherent conservative nature of the Austrian government and Emperor Franz I himself. Hofer and his Tyrolean guerrillas had shown that ordinary subjects could organize and achieve success, whereas the ruling elite, who had supposedly trained for government, administrative and command roles, failed miserably. This exposed the failures of the social-economic system, while the elites regarded those lower on the social ladder as mere instruments.

Under the guise of duty, service, the will of God and the natural order, the lives and property of ordinary subjects were sacrificed for the interests of a select few.

The Austrian authorities sought to harness the forces of the newly stirring nationalism and patriotism in the German regions against the French, yet contain the natural consequences and conclusions these could bring. They sought to contain the inevitable demands for better government, representative government, for the fair and equal application of the law and for social mobility. In short, for the same rights and privileges to apply to all.

Although fiercely loyal and fighting 'for God, the Emperor and the fatherland,' Hofer had shown to be a natural leader and capable of independent action. As such, he could prove to be dangerous to the status quo and Hapsburg interests in the future. A dead hero and resistance fighter is often more useful than a live one. The cult of hero worship which developed after his death can be seen in the primitive folk paintings (see images 3 and 7), the monuments (see image 8) and the numerous official commemorative coins and medals struck by the Austria state (see images 9 and 10). It was harnessed early and continues to be for political ends. Only weeks following his execution, the *Gazette de France* remarked of him:

*"not a bad man, nor dangerous in himself, but his was caught up in his enthusiasm, and many terrible things were committed in his name. This man had absolutely no knowledge of military tactics, administration or politics; he was simple and ignorant. The Tyroleans venerate him, in sorts..."*⁶

To this end, Hofer's role may have been largely symbolic; he was the embodiment of the Tyrol in appearance and temperament. A man with a long black beard, large brimmed hat and regional dress. A man, who was modest, reserved, traditional, religious, pious, hospitable and loyal. Jean Sévillia remarks that:

*"Hofer's legitimacy was neither purely of a military nature, nor purely political. It was based on feudal order [...] founded on a moral pact which linked [him] and the Archduke Johann and, above that, the Emperor Francis I."*⁷

We must be careful not to demean Hofer's role in the Tyrol Insurrection and be aware of who or what is writing about him. The *Gazette de France*, an official instrument of the French state, needed to belittle his importance, yet leave enough of

his dignity to explain why it took so much time and effort to quell a rising led by a man without "knowledge of military tactics, administration or politics".⁸ If not enough dignity was left, it would make Napoléon and his marshals look incompetent.

Hofer saved his father's business from bankruptcy and made it thrive. He was chosen by Archduke Johann as his instrument, who knew the people would not follow a fool on such a dangerous course. Andreas Hofer must obviously have been an able and charismatic man who was able to inspire people to follow him, regardless of who or what gave him 'legitimacy'. A man, capable of leading a rebellion against a far more numerous foe, with little and later no outside help, against some of the best military commanders of the age.

Both sides of the developing debate about the legitimacy of the traditional order and democracy would claim Hofer for their side. Above all, he was co-opted by the pro-democracy side and transformed into a champion of the people. As much as the ruling elite tried to contain the forces unleashed by the French Revolution, the stirring of patriotism and nationalism, of which gradually Hofer was also made a champion, the genie was out of the bottle. This became more and more evident during the upheavals of 1830 and 1848 in Europe, which forced governments to face the inevitable and begin, however reluctantly the move toward more equitable treatment of their subjects and citizens. Even today, this dream is far from complete. Its realization is an ongoing process, suffering at times severe setbacks when governments fall back on bad habits. It is during these times of danger to the hard won rights of ordinary people that modern day Andreas Hofers in the forms of Edward Snowden, Bradley Manning, Julian Assange and countless other unsung citizen heroes and freedom fighters are willing to face hardship and make sacrifice for the greater good. You may not agree with their methods, but you cannot deny their importance to the ongoing debate about citizen rights and democracy.

In the end, Andreas Hofer was a patriot, who was used by his political masters for their purposes, yet to Tyroleans and many others, he has become the embodiment of the citizen fighting for freedom. This is only just, as he made the ultimate sacrifice for what he held dear.

IMAGES:

1. map based on de:Bild:GesamtTirol.png, publisher: PSIplus, wikipedia - Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino Euroregion.
2. United States Military Academy, Department of History.
3. Tiroler Kaiserjägermuseum, Innsbruck, Tyrol,

Austria.

4. photo by Armin Kübelbeck.

5. author's collection

6. Auktionshaus H. D. Rauch GmbH, auction 84, lot 3617, (13.05.2009).

7. artist and date unknown.

8. photo by Mathias Bigge.

9 & 10. official photo

NOTES:

1. Correspondance de Napoléon Ier, vol. XIX et XX, 15030 pp. 448-449
2. The Gentleman's Magazine, volume 79 part 2, F. Jefferies, 1809, p 1065.
3. Jean Sévillia *Le Chouan du Tyrol : Andreas Hofer contre Napoléon* 1991, p. 189
4. *The Annual Register, or a view of the history politics and literature for the year 1809* Volume 51, Baldwin, Cradock and Joy, 1821. p. 733-738.
5. <http://andreas-hofer.info/timeline.html>
6. *Gazette de France*, 4 March 1810.
7. Sévillia, p. 125.
8. Ibid.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

- Aubry, Octave. *Napoleon Soldier and Emperor* (Philadelphia, USA: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1938).
- Bram, Leon L. *Funk & Wagnalls New Encyclopedia* (New York, New York: Funk & Wagnalls, Inc., 1989).
- *Correspondance de Napoléon Ier, volumes XIX et XX 1809-1810* (Bibliothèque des Introuvables: Paris, 2002).
- Fremont-Barnes, Gregory & Fisher, Todd. *The Napoleonic Wars - The Rise and Fall of an Empire* (Oxford, UK: Osprey Publishing Limited, 2004).
- Harvey, Robert. *The War of Wars - The Great European Conflict 1793 - 1815* (New York, New York: Carroll & Graf Publishers, 2006).
- Haythornthwaite, Philip J. *Who Was Who in the Napoléonic Wars* (London, England: Arms & Armour, The Cassell Group, 1998).
- Langer, William L. *An Encyclopedia of World History* (Cambridge, Massachusetts: The Riverside Press, 1952).
- Lefebvre, Georges. *Napoléon - From 18 Brumaire to Tilsit 1799 - 1807* (New York, New York: Columbia University Press, 1969).
- Schom, Alan. *Napoleon Bonaparte* (New York, New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1997).
- Sévillia, Jean. *Le Chouan du Tyrol: Andreas Hofer contre Napoléon* (Paris: Perin, 1991).
- The Annual Register for 1809.
- http://www.napoleon.org/en/reading_room/articles/files/473221.asp
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Tyrol
- <http://andreas-hofer.info/timeline.html>
- http://www.andreashoferkompanie.de/html/andreas_hofer.html



A Royal Treat...



*Become a new subscriber
and we'll give you a Queen Elizabeth II
50-cent piece as a Thank-You gift.*

We've negotiated to buy bulk lots of these coins from a major coin dealer, in mixed dates and grades, so we can't tell you much about the coin.

But we can say that each coin contains .30 troy ounces of silver.

What's more, you can get this with just a **1-year subscription for only \$42.75***
plus applicable tax

*Don't hesitate... with the price of silver being as volatile as it is,
we can't be sure if we will be able to extend this offer past August 31, 2012!*

Three easy ways to begin your subscription:

phone: **1-800-408-0352** online: **www.canadiancoinnews.ca**

mail: **Canadian Coin News** PO Box 28103, Lakeport PO, 600 Ontario St., St. Catharines, ON L2N 7P8

Please mention or note this ad when you place your order

*** Regular Pricing:** 2 YRS (52 ISSUES) • AB, MB, PE, QC, SK, Territories: \$78.12 • BC: \$83.33 • NB, NL, ON: \$84.07 • NS: \$85.56 • USA: \$80.55 (US\$)
1 YR (26 ISSUES) • AB, MB, PE, QC, SK, Territories: \$44.89 • BC: \$47.88 • NB, NL, ON: \$48.31 • NS: \$49.16 • USA: \$45.95 (US\$)

*Offer applies to new subscribers only. New subscribers are defined as a subscription delivered to a person whose name has never received Canadian Coin News, or an address that has never received Canadian Coin News. Available to Canadian subscribers only. Payment must accompany order to receive the Queen Elizabeth II 50-cent piece. Payment methods accepted: Visa, MasterCard, Cheque, Money Order. Please allow up to 4 weeks for delivery of your first issue

Canada Coin & Paper Money

"Everything Is Worth Something"

**Purchase
Sell
Consign
Appraise**

Ron Thompson

PO Box 425
St. Albert, Alberta T8N 7A2
Tel: (780) 459-6868
Email: roncoins@shaw.ca
<http://members.shaw.ca/roncoins>

CPMS CNA



ROSS CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

Call Today To Book Your Appointment

**Massage Therapy
Acupuncture
Infra-Red Sauna**

Walk - Ins Welcome

**Gift Certificates
Available**

**Package Deals
& Promotions
Available**

DR. CAROLE E. ROSS
MAVIS RICHARDS, RMT
LILY REN, AC., RMT



Alberta
College and
Association of
CHIROPRACTORS
MEMBER

FOR MORE INFO:

10153 - 122 STREET
EDMONTON, AB T5N 1L7
TEL: (780) 448-5888

National Pride ~Coins & Stamps~

WE BUY~SELL~APPRAISE

- GOLD & SILVER BULLION
- MILITARIA & MEDALS
- COLLECTABLE WATCHES
- WORLD COINS & PAPER MONEY

**8005 - 104 Street
Edmonton, AB
T6E 4E3**

RAY NEIMAN

Ph: (780) 433-7288

Fax: (780) 434-9466

AGENT FOR THE ROYAL CANADIAN MINT



Peter McDonald Coins

Box 171 Kirkland, QC Canada H9H 0A3

Tel (514) 231-4106

E-mail: pmcoins@total.net

Web: www.pmcoins.com

Member
of:

ISBN
#9966



BR-3157285



**GEORGE MANZ
COINS**

P.O. BOX 3626

Regina, SK S4P 3L7

306.352.2337

george@georgemanzcoins.com

www.georgemanzcoins.com



Classified & Coming Events

PLACE YOUR AD HERE FREE FOR ENS MEMBERS

No limit of ads and no limit of words. Ads must be numismatically related and can include books, coins, paper, supplies, buying, wanted, selling, tokens, bullion, medals, Canadian, world, websites, shows, etc.

The ENS reserves the right to refuse to print any classified ad in whole or in part. Ads posted for one year will be removed unless the member can confirm ad is to continue. All classified advertizers must be ENS members.

All ads to be submitted to **editor_ens@yahoo.ca** e-mail or given to the Editing Team at monthly meetings.

Wanted

All period Napoleonic memorabilia & Militaria.

Contact Bill at
wjdy2k@hotmail.com

Early English or German hammered coins. Contact
Marc. mbink@shaw.ca

Complete Date, Canadian Decimal coin sets. Great for gifts. Low prices. Contact Ray, (780) 433-7288

Early French medals or English/British Coins dating from 1642-1821. Contact Pierre. pierre@nancykbrown.com

For Sale

1968, 1969 & 1970

Edmonton Klondike

Dollars in Silver. Prefer in original case of issue. Call Howard (780) 998-0434 or cell (780) 298-0434, e-mail taneri9@mcsnet.ca

Large collection of certified & raw coins & banknotes, some up to 50% off cat. Inc. Errors. Call John (780) 455-8375

New Membership Applications

Dragan Nikolic PhD. PPhys

These individuals have applied for membership into the Edmonton Numismatic Society. Pending any objections from the membership at large, these individuals will be accepted as "Members in Good Standing", effective this publishing date. Any objections to the aforementioned applications must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Edmonton Numismatic Society, and will be evaluated by the Executive Committee on a case-by-case basis.

Coming Events

October 9, 2013 - ENS October Meeting - Royal Alberta Museum, 7:15 pm start.

November 9 & 10, 2013 - *Edmonton's Fall Coin Show and Sale, Edmonton Hotel & Conference Centre, 4520 - 76 Ave, Edmonton, Alberta, T6B 0A5, dealers wishing to attend call 780-270-6312.*

December 11, 2013 - ENS December Meeting - Royal Alberta Museum, 7:15 pm start. Live auction with all proceeds to charity.

January 8, 2014 - ENS January Meeting - Royal Alberta Museum, 7:15 pm start.

February 12, 2014 - ENS February Meeting - Royal Alberta Museum, 7:15 pm start. Society annual elections.

March 1 & 2, 2014 - *Edmonton's Spring Coin Show and Sale, Edmonton Hotel & Conference Centre, 4520 - 76 Ave, Edmonton, Alberta, T6B 0A5, dealers wishing to attend call 780-270-6312.*



Your Source for Silver and Gold Bullion



Up to the minute quotes on precious metals

TOLL FREE 1-877-TRY-MRCS

FULL SELECTION OF COIN AND STAMP SUPPLIES IN STOCK

BUYING AND SELLING

website: mrcscanada.com // email: mrcscanada@shaw.ca

12303-118 AVE. EDMONTON 780-482-3373